

Israeli troops attacked near Tyre

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Israeli forces in Lebanon came under attack twice Tuesday, but no casualties were reported, security sources said. Unidentified attackers fired a rocket at an Israeli position in the Bourghlyeb area, five kilometres north of the southern port of Tyre, the sources said. The rocket landed in the Mediterranean. While combing the area, Israeli forces discovered a rocket launcher in an orchard and arrested some people for investigation, the sources said. Gunmen also fired on an Israeli patrol at Abu Al Aswad, on the coastal road between Tyre and Sidon, security sources reported. The identity of the attackers was unknown. On Monday an Israeli army spokesman said three Israeli soldiers were wounded near the town of Nabatiyeh.

Jordan Times

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British minister flies to Beirut

LONDON (R) — British Foreign Office Minister Richard Luce left Tuesday for Beirut to inspect the British contingent in the Multinational Peacekeeping Force. The Foreign Office, which for security reasons did not announce his trip in advance, said he would also call on Lebanese government ministers during the three-day visit. It will be his first visit to Lebanon since he assumed responsibility for the Middle East in a Foreign Office reshuffle after Britain's general election returned the Conservative government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher last June. A Foreign Office spokesman said the trip had been planned for some time and would enable Mr. Luce to familiarise himself with the problems of the region first-hand. Diplomatic sources said there was growing concern in government circles that the British force — an armoured car unit of just under 100 men — might be dragged into the fighting.

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Kuwait cancels Eid celebrations

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has cancelled official celebrations marking the Muslim feast of the Sacrifice, Eid Al Adha, starting on Saturday because of the Middle East situation, a government statement said Tuesday. It said Kuwait's Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, ordered the cancellation because of "the grave situation in the Arab World where Muslims are being killed or driven from their homes." Officials said a three-day holiday marking the end of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca would not be affected.

Iraq destroys large Iranian naval target

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi jets destroyed a "large enemy naval target" near Khor Mousa at the head of the Gulf, a high command communiqué issued here said. The communiqué did not identify the target, but said all the planes returned safely to base after forcing an Iranian fighter formation to flee. Khor Mousa is near the mouth of a bay leading to the Iranian port of Bandar Khomeini, the site of a multi-billion dollar petrochemical joint venture between Japan and Iran.

23 Indians feared dead in fishing boat accident

NEW DELHI (R) — Twenty-three people, many of them children, are feared drowned after a fishing boat capsized Monday night on a rain-swollen river in western India, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Tuesday. Police said nine bodies had been recovered. Twenty people were rescued. The boat was hired for a religious ceremony and overturned in the Damanganga River in the south of India's western state of Gujarat, PTI added.

Abu Iyad says PLO will fight if U.S. continues involvement

AMMAN (J.T.) — PLO leader Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) said Palestinian forces in Lebanon will join the military operations if the U.S. and Israeli involvement in the fight continues. Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) forces "have taken a neutral stand in the inter-Lebanese conflict so far," Mr. Khalaf told Kuwait daily Al Anba Monday, "but cannot sustain this attitude if American and Israeli biased participation is to be carried on further."

Iranians clash with Saudi police

LONDON (R) — Iranian and other pilgrims clashed with Saudi Arabian police after a rally outside the Iranian pilgrims' headquarters in Mecca, Tehran Radio reported. The radio, monitored in London by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said Saudi special guards attacked the pilgrims as they moved towards Mecca's Grand Mosque injuring 25 Iranians and arresting others. It did not say how many had been arrested.

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Fighting rages in Souk Al Gharb

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese army units garrisoned in the key town of Souk Al Gharb overlooking Beirut came under renewed attack by anti-government forces Tuesday while fighting elsewhere in the mountains eased for the first time in days.

Grey clouds of smoke rose from where shells landed and occasionally muzzle flashes sparked among the cluster of town buildings straddling a mountain ridge.

Souk Al Gharb lies straight down on Beirut to the northwest and the army says its 400-strong garrison there has repulsed repeated attempts to take it since last week.

The town has become the main focus of fighting after 10 days of fierce battles in the mountains involving anti-government Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and leftist militias, their Falangist rivals and the Lebanese army.

Elsewhere, clashes appeared to have subsided significantly Tuesday with only isolated shelling and gunfire reported.

State-run Beirut Radio said Lebanese army positions came under fire near Khaled, south of Beirut, and several shells crashed into a suburb of east Beirut Tuesday morning.

It also reported six rockets and five shells landing near the mountain town of Beit Meri, a town northeast of Beirut which lies close to Syrian-held territory. Leftist Murabitoun Radio later said shells had hit a hospital in the Syrian-controlled village of Dhour Al Shweir, to the northeast

of Beit Meri, causing seven casualties.

But all Beirut radio stations reported a tense calm on other battlefronts, including the Kharrub area 25 kilometres south of Beirut, where predominantly Druze-PSP and leftist forces have fought the army and the Lebanese forces militia in an apparent attempt to break through to the sea.

The army sources said Syrian, Palestinian and PSP militiamen had set up a joint command post at Sofar, east of Souk Al Gharb, to direct the fighting in the area.

They also said that an additional brigade of troops had been sent to reinforce Syrian forces around Dhour Al Shweir where the sources said they expected a new front to open at any time.

The sources reiterated the government's insistence that the fighting is not civil war, but largely inspired by outside intervention. But statements by PSP leaders and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Tuesday rep-

eated denials that any foreign troops were involved in the warfare.

"The fighting is between Lebanese Forces," Abu Jihad, military deputy to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, told reporters at his headquarters in the northern port of Tripoli.

A statement by an organisation including eight PSP groups, the Permanent Bureau of Druze Institutions, said allegations of Syrian and Palestinian involvement were "completely false".

Syrian spokesmen have also denied Syrian involvement.

Tuesday's comparative lull in the fighting was attributed by most Lebanese in exhaustion among the combatants and most expected clashes to build up again before long.

Hopes for a formal ceasefire are pinned on a mediation attempt by Saudi Arabian envoy Prince Bandar Bin Sultan, who returned to Damascus Tuesday to try to break a deadlock in negotiations.

U.S. approves naval, air support to aid Marines

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has approved the use of naval gunfire and air strikes if necessary to defend U.S. Marines and other international peacekeeping forces in Beirut, the White House said Tuesday.

Spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters the 1,200-strong Marine contingent in Beirut and supporting forces offshore could take "appropriate measures" in case of a threat to them. Other peacekeeping troops or to U.S. diplomats.

Britain, France and Italy also have troops in the peacekeeping force.

Asked if Mr. Reagan's instructions included the right to use air power, Mr. Speakes said the local commander in Beirut "can request fleet firepower of any type."

He said orders for the fleet to go into action would be given by a military commander in the Mediterranean and would not have to be approved in Washington.

The directive gives much more latitude to the military command in the Mediterranean. Previously any naval action needed to be approved in Washington.

'U.S. opposes Israel's annexation of West Bank'

WASHINGTON (Petra) — The U.S. State Department spokesman Tuesday stressed that the U.S. has repeatedly emphasised concern for Jordan's territorial integrity, independence, sovereignty and evolutionary distinctive entity. The U.S. opposes the thesis that considers Jordan a Palestinian state.

Commenting on Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens' recent statement on sovereignty over the West Bank and his allegations on Jordan being a Palestinian state, the State Department spokesman said his country opposes the annexation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip by Israel.

Such annexation is opposed to U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 in letter and spirit, the spokesman pointed out.

The final status of the occupied Arab territories can only be decided through negotiations between concerned parties, and the U.S. fully adheres to President Reagan's statement of Sept. 1, 1982, which rules out U.S. support for annexation or lasting dominance by Israel of the occupied Arab territories.

Damascus warns U.S. against military solution

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria Tuesday warned the U.S. and Lebanese governments against resorting to a military solution in Lebanon, saying such a move would be "fraught with dangers and might go beyond the Middle East borders."

The warning was given at a press conference by Syria's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Farouk Al Shar'e.

"We warn and caution American and West European public opinion in particular, and world opinion in general, against the seriousness of the American administration's and the Beirut regime's resorting to a military solution instead of a political one," Mr. Shar'e said.

"This will be fraught with dangers and might go beyond the Middle East borders," he said.

"We, in Syria, feel that there is a big possibility of the United States resorting to a serious military escalation in Lebanon, a matter which has to be confronted."

"Syria could not but respond to such an escalation as it can never desert the Lebanese National Forces," Mr. Shar'e said.

"Such an escalation can never be contained because it might cover the entire region," Mr. Shar'e said.

His remarks followed a U.S. Defence Department announcement that the 45,000-ton battleship New Jersey had headed into the Atlantic.

Pentagon sources told Reuters the dispatch of the battleship and the arrival of 2,000 U.S. Marines off the Lebanese coast Monday were intended "to send a message to Syria."

U.S., Soviets reject move to change Antarctic Treaty

CANBERRA (R) — Member nations of the 24-year-old Antarctic Treaty, including the Soviet Union and the United States, Tuesday rejected moves led by Malaysia for a more international body to govern the vast ice-bound land mass.

The Soviet Union said at the opening session of a two-week meeting of the treaty's consultative group that any negotiation of a new treaty could create international conflict.

Its chief delegate, E.I. Tolstikov, said the Soviet Union opposed a Malaysian move to discuss

the Antarctic at the forthcoming United Nations General Assembly.

The head of the U.S. delegation, Tucker Sully, said the treaty, which has 16 full members, had brought countries of widely differing political systems together in a rare display of international cooperation.

Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said in a keynote opening address that any attempt to negotiate a new international agreement would be likely to introduce uncertainty and instability in the region.

Conciliation group meets Fateh rebels

DAMASCUS (R) — A Palestinian conciliation group Tuesday met rebels within the Fateh commando group in an attempt to narrow differences between them and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Palestinian sources said the meeting was also attended by Khalid Fahoum, speaker of the Palestine National Council — the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

The 18-member conciliation group, set up last month by the Palestine Central Council, has been shuttling between Tunis and Damascus to sound out Mr. Arafat, also leader of Fateh.

Sharon attacks Arens' policies

TEL AVIV (R) — Ariel Sharon, Israel's combative former defence minister, has sharply attacked the policies of his successor, Moshe Arens, in what political analysts believe is part of a bid to win a more important cabinet post.

Mr. Sharon ordered Israeli troops into Lebanon last year but was replaced by Mr. Arens in February after being blamed for Israel's indirect role in the massacre of hundreds of Palestinians in Beirut refugee camps.

Mr. Sharon, who was demoted to minister without portfolio, is reported to have bickered with Arens in cabinet sessions and has publicly attacked him for the way in which Israeli troops pulled back in Lebanon.

S. Korea vows to press for more sanctions

SEOUL (R) — South Korea vowed Tuesday to press for further sanctions against the Soviet Union, after Moscow vetoed a Security Council resolution deploring its destruction of a South Korean airliner.

Prime Minister Kim Sang-Hyup said Seoul would keep pressing for collective sanctions against Moscow, with which it has no diplomatic links, at the forthcoming U.N. General Assembly and an International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) meeting starting in Montreal on Thursday.

Earlier Tuesday, South Korea accused the Soviet Union of barbarism in vetoing a Security Council

resolution which deplored the shooting down of the South Korean jumbo jet by a Soviet fighter on Sept. 1.

A Foreign Ministry statement said Moscow had shamelessly blocked the resolution. The Korean government "condemns the barbarism of the Soviet Union, which adheres to violence and brutality in defiance of law and morals."

Mr. Kim told a meeting in the southeastern city of Taegu that South Korea saw the U.N. vote as a diplomatic success. Moscow was forced to use its veto after Western countries mustered nine votes in the 15-member Security Council

— the minimum needed to pass a resolution.

"That there were nine votes in favour is our diplomatic success," Mr. Kim declared.

The Soviet Union and Poland voted against the resolution while four countries abstained.

South Korea, which is not a member of the U.N., has demanded full compensation from Moscow, a public apology and punishment of those responsible.

Ministry officials noted that Pakistan, Togo and Malta, which have no diplomatic ties with Seoul, voted in favour of the Security Council resolution.

Hussein, Noor arrive in Tokyo

TOKYO (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor and the accompanying delegation arrived in Tokyo Tuesday noon on a several-day visit during which he will meet Japan's Emperor Hirohito, Crown Prince Akihito and hold talks with Prime Minister Nakasone, Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and senior Japanese officials.

Their Majesties were welcomed at Tokyo International Airport by a number of senior Imperial Court and government officials and heads of Arab diplomatic missions in Japan.

The King will be visiting a number of Japanese industrial foundations during his visit.

Prior to his departure from Seoul King Hussein and Korean President Chun Doo-Hwan agreed to step up their political, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation between both countries. A joint communiqué said Tuesday.

The communiqué, issued by the King and the Korean president said relations between the two countries had strengthened and should expand still further.

King Hussein, on behalf of the government and people of Jordan, expressed sincerest condolences

and deepest sympathies on the death of 269 people aboard the unarmed passenger aircraft of the Korean Air Lines which was shot down on Sept. 1, 1983.

He also stated that this inhuman, unacceptable and undependable act by one of the two superpowers represents a very dangerous precedent which threatens civil air transport the world over, and thus requires the entire world community to ensure promptly that this type of action never happens again.

The two leaders shared the view that the respect for the principle of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of states, as well as non-intervention in internal affairs of other states, is essential to the maintenance of peace and security in the world, and that international disputes should be solved, not by force, but through peaceful means.

President Chun also reaffirmed the Korean government's position that Israel should withdraw from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination, should be respected.

King Hussein supporting the

said efforts and initiatives of the Republic of Korea to achieve the reunification of Korea by peaceful means, expressed Jordan's continued support for the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula through direct contact and dialogue between the South and the North of Korea in accordance with the basic principles contained in the joint communiqué issued in July 1972.

The two heads of state exchanged views on ways and means to further expand co-operative relations between the two countries and came to the understanding that the two governments should explore more possible areas of economic, scientific and technical co-operation for mutual benefits.

The two leaders, being aware of the richness of their respective cultural heritages, recognised the need for further encouraging cultural exchanges in such fields as arts, education and sports to deepen the mutual understanding between the two peoples.

King Hussein extended an invitation to President and Mrs. Chun Doo Hwan to visit Jordan at the latter's convenience. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Washington optimistic on Geneva talks

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger is optimistic that the Soviet Union might be ready to reach an interim agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe, British Defence Minister Michael Heseltine said Tuesday.

Mr. Heseltine told a news conference after meeting Mr. Weinberger he thought the approaching date for the deployment of the first of 572 Pershing II and

cruise missiles might prompt a new Soviet negotiating position at talks in Geneva.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) allies have agreed to start deploying the missiles in December in Britain and West Germany unless the Soviets withdraw their new SS-20 missiles.

Mr. Heseltine, here on an official visit, holds meetings Wednesday with Secretary of State George Shultz, Kenneth Ade-

lman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and congressional leaders including Senator John Tower, chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

U.S. officials have said the Reagan administration is formulating a new, more flexible, negotiating position for the Geneva talks in the hope of reaching an interim agreement before the first cruise and Pershing II deployments.

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MIDDLE EAST

Gruesome relics of war dot Chadian Desert after battles

By Michael Battye

OUN CHALOUBA, Chad — A semi-decomposed body lies beside a burned-out jeep in the northeastern Chad Desert. The recoilless rifle the man had been firing lies alongside, torn from its mountings.

The scene is repeated many times. During a 75-kilometre drive, the first group of journalists allowed in this outpost since a battle between government forces and Libyan backed rebels 10 days ago, counted at least 30 bodies.

Vultures wheeling overhead on either side of the track provide evidence of many more dead lying in the desert after a running battle on Sept. 2.

The Chad army, and its 28-year-old commander-in-chief Idriss Debi, was keen to show off its victory after senior French ministers said only minor skirmishes had occurred in Chad since "Operation Stingray" put 2,500 French troops into Chad over the last month to back President Hissene Habre.

The debris of war provides a graphic picture of how battles are fought in the northern Chad Desert of sand and rock — men in jeeps, Land Rovers and similar vehicles mounted with a variety of weapons chasing each other at high speed, stopping to fight when cornered.

Some of the soldiers are only in their early teens. Mr. Debi said the battle began early on Sept. 2 at Wadi Fama, well south of here and only 20 kilometres north of the nearest French position at Arada.

One French officer there said he was able to watch part of the battle through binoculars.

Mr. Debi said a column of the Islamic Legion — which President Habre says has been largely recruited by Libya from Africans working there — attacked about 200 men at Wadi Fama, who withdrew.

The commander-in-chief himself led some 300 men down from Oum Chalouba and attacked from the North, scattering the rebel column in the Wadi, which he said was 1,500 strong.

He said the government side lost four dead and 15 wounded.

We saw at least 15 bodies in the Wadi and a burned-out Mercedes truck, then followed the battlefield through the desert to Oum Chalouba.

"Now, do you still call that a skirmish?" Mr. Debi asked when we reached here.

Mr. Debi said his men pursued the fleeing rebels 120 kilometres north of Oum Chalouba, close to the hill town of Fada, where he said Libyan regulars were based. "If you want to take the risk, we can go and find some," he said.

Mr. Debi also gave the first eyewitness account of the role of French Jaguar strike aircraft during the battle. At the time, both Paris and N'jamena denied they had been used, but Western diplomatic sources credited them with turning the tide of battle without firing a shot.

Mr. Debi said the rebels were already on the retreat just north of the wadi when three Jaguars appeared and made six low level passes at about 150 metres.

"Fearing our forces and the Islamic Legion could be confused I ordered my men to halt. The enemy profited from this by fleeing further and I demanded the recall of the Jaguars by radio," he said.

Mr. Debi added that the Jaguars had not fired but he had clearly expected them to. He appeared far from pleased at their role.

He said Jaguars also flew over the settlement of Kalait, not far to the northeast of Oum Chalouba, last Friday, where the Chad flag was flying over his positions.

Mr. Debi said government patrols were ranging to within 40-50 kilometres of Fada. Rebel and Libyan forces were bottled up there by mountains and had only one road out to the South, he said.

Government patrols were hampered because there was no drinkable water between Arada and Oum-Chalouba because all the water-holes had been contaminated by bodies, he said.

He, like other senior commanders, was upset by a lack of French action during the fighting and their stated mission of providing a dissuasive force blocking the Libyan route South.

"Chadians died for France in World War II" said Ibrahim Mahamat Iino, a senior commander and a secretary of state at the presidency. "We died for the liberation of France. If we are willing to die for France, why should they not die for us?"

France colonised us, France drew the frontiers. They must now guarantee the integrity of those frontiers," he said.

Qatar bans visitors at time of Doha meeting

BAHRAIN (R) — Qatar has banned all visitors around the time of a meeting of Gulf heads of state in Doha in November, following unconfirmed reports of arrests and a big arms haul by local security police.

Officials in Doha said Tuesday visitors would be restricted to 72-hour visas from Sept. 15 and all visitors would be barred from Oct. 15 to Nov. 20.

The period of the ban coincides

with a meeting of heads of state of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members in the Qatari capital in early November.

Diplomats sources in the Gulf said the ban appeared to be connected with a general tightening of security for the summit after the reported arrests and arms haul.

Qatari authorities have not confirmed the reported arrests, said by the sources to have included members of the security forces.

Kuwaiti envoy to discuss Arab unity in Syria

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah said Tuesday he would visit Damascus Wednesday for talks on inter-Arab differences and ways of restoring Arab solidarity.

Sheikh Sabah visited Damascus and Baghdad earlier this month, as part of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) efforts to improve relations between the two countries to set the stage for an Arab summit in Riyadh in November.

Official sources said Sheikh Sabah's latest visit to the Syrian capital had no connection with current Saudi Arabian efforts to defuse the Lebanese crisis, although he would discuss the situation in Lebanon with Syrian officials.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters he would go to London after his visit to Damascus and then fly on to New York to attend a U.N. General Assembly meeting.



REFUGEES HEAD SOUTH: A Lebanese refugee child, part of a family that left their home in the Shouf mountains to escape renewed fighting between Falangist and leftwing forces, sits on a mattress in a disused classroom in the city of Sidon. (A.P. wirephoto)

2 Armenians face trial in Yugoslavia

BELGRADE (R) — Two Armenians were charged Tuesday with the murder of Turkey's ambassador in Belgrade last March, the Yugoslav public prosecutor revealed in an indictment.

Harouchion Krikor Levonian, 23, and Raffi Alexander Elbakian, 21, who were also charged with the attempted murder of the ambassador's chauffeur, have been held for interrogation since the incident last March 9.

Elbakian is additionally charged with killing a Yugoslav student who tried to stop the assassination, and Levonian with attempting to murder a retired colonel caught in crossfire.

The indictment said the Armenians belonged to a secret Lebanon-based Armenian group calling itself "justice commandos of the Armenian genocide."

The two face a maximum penalty of death and a minimum 10 years' imprisonment, although a death sentence is unlikely, legal sources said.

S. Yemen to discuss issue with Oman

KUWAIT (R) — A postponed meeting on border disputes between Oman and South Yemen is now likely to take place next month, with both countries' foreign ministers attending, official sources here said.

The sources said the meeting, which was due to have been held in Kuwait was also expected to result in a statement expressing both countries' willingness to resume diplomatic relations. No reason was given for its postponement.

Oman's ambassador to Kuwait Saud Salem Al-Ansi had talks Monday with Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Rashid Al-Rashid on the Sultanate's views on normalising relations with its southern neighbour.

The two countries last year agreed to move towards renewing ties after years of mutual hostility.

Afghanistan said attacks rebel forces

ISLAMABAD (R) — Soviet and Afghan government forces appear to have launched an offensive against guerrillas in the Shomali region north of Kabul, Western diplomats said Tuesday.

They quoted reports from embassies in Kabul as saying the fighting began in late August around the region's provincial capital Charikar, which controls the main road between Kabul and the Soviet Union.

By Sept. 1 about 50 Soviet and Afghan troops and about 25 guerrillas were reported killed in the area, they said.

The diplomats said a large column of Soviet and Afghan troops which left Kabul for the north in early September was attacked twice by guerrillas. Several armoured vehicles were destroyed and casualties were high on both sides, they said.

Citibank to pay \$323,000 in Arab boycott case

WASHINGTON (R) — Citibank of New York has agreed to pay the United States government \$323,000 to settle charges that it violated federal rules designed to discourage cooperation with an Arab boycott of Israel, the Commerce Department said.

Assistant Commerce Secretary Lawrence Brady said the amount to be paid by the New York Bank was the largest civil penalty ever imposed for alleged failure to report promptly any requests made to comply with the boycott.

The anti-boycott regulations are designed to prevent U.S. firms or citizens from cooperating with the boycott of Israel by Arab countries.

They bar Americans from engaging in any restrictive trade practices and from providing information about their business dealings with boycotted countries or blacklisted individuals.

Requests to do so must be reported to the department.

According to government charges, Citibank received 337 such requests from Kuwait, Oman and Abu Dhabi from 1980 until early this year but failed to tell the Commerce Department about them.

The bank did not admit or deny the charges but promised to take steps to ensure compliance with the rules in future.

The Commerce Department alleged that letters of credit processed by Citibank covering goods intended for shipment to Kuwait, Oman and Abu Dhabi, directed that the goods must not originate in boycotted countries or be borne on carriers ineligible to enter Arab countries.

Citibank was accused only of failing to report the request and not of actually complying with them, Mr. Brady said.

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THE NEWS

Essential services to operate as normal during Eid holiday

AMMAN (Petra) — Specialised bodies in the Amman Municipality will continue normal work during the Eid Al Adha holiday, a municipality source said.

This decision was taken Sunday by the Amman Mayor, Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh. An operation room will function to provide essential services around the

clock during the holiday, the source said.

Refuse collectors, roads maintenance work teams and building and public health officers will be among the staff who will work normally during the holiday. People can contact the operations room on telephone 37111 or 38184, the source added.

Motorcycle dealers oppose restrictions

AMMAN — Agents of motorcycle companies in Jordan have filed a complaint against a stipulation in the new traffic law which imposes restrictions on the selling and licensing of motorcycles. The complaint was submitted recently by the dealers to the Amman Chamber of Commerce for discussion and debate.

The new traffic law has limited the sales of motorcycles to government departments and commercial companies only thus decreasing the volume of sales and causing the agents to be stuck with JD 1,000,000 worth of motorcycle stock, according to the complaint submitted.

Mr. Mohammad Teejani, general manager of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, told the Jordan Times that restrictions were imposed on motorcycle sales by the Ministry of Interior for

"public safety reasons and to put an end to the unruly use of motorcycles by teenagers who caused a lot of accidents according to official statistics; added to that is the noise such vehicles make which disturbs the tranquillity of our citizens", he said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Teejani said, the president of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Hamdi Tabaa, met recently with the minister of interior, Mr. Ahmad Obeidat and with the minister of trade and industry, Mr. Walid Asfour, and discussed the complaint with them.

Mr. Obeidat studied the complaint and promised to consider lifting the restrictions concerning the sale of motorcycles to farmers and some skilled labourers, but no final decision has yet been taken, Mr. Teejani added.

S.N.

Suheimat announces new truck cargo regulations

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport Ali Suheimat Monday announced the new temporary regulations for truck cargoes on Jordan's motorways and main roads.

The new rules permit trucks to use all Jordanian roads on the condition that the height of their cargo does not exceed four metres. The overall width of a truck should not exceed 290 centimetres, and any cargo overlap at the truck's rear should not exceed 150 centimetres, the regulation stated. Trucks wishing to carry

cargoes over these maximum should apply for a special permit from the ministry, the announcement said.

The new regulations are designed to ease the ban on excess cargo. If certain considerations are provided for on the condition that such cargoes do not exceed 25 per cent of the cargo limit originally stated in the truck's licence, and the new rule will apply to all trucks up until Sept. 1, 1984. The total cargo of any truck is not permitted to exceed 64 tonnes.



Four ballerinas from the Leningrad State Ballet which has been performing at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman

Dance ensemble enriches RCC stage

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Perfect skill, taste and happy combination of music and plasticity; a harmony born of the talented imagination of Leonid Yakobson, the founder of the Leningrad State Ballet which consists of 55 ballerinas and dancers — performed at the Royal Cultural Centre Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

"The cycle of miniatures to the themes of Rodin" with music by Debussy, Prokofiev and Berg was fascinating. No less successful was the cycle "Choreographic Sketches", an attempt to convert a picture of life to a ballet form and

to make the public laugh and reflect perceiving not only with feelings but also with rationality. The show introduced many non-traditional modern dance elements and the public was fascinated by the skill of the artists who looked as if floating on top of the stage.

The choreographic miniatures are known as the most democratic genre of ballet. With two or three dancers, the ballet master can create a work which expresses, in a compressed and simple form, profound ideas and feelings.

Leonid Yakobson, the founder of the company is a recognised master of this genre, who created a rich and varied repertoire to im-

press ballet fans all over the world.

"The Choreographic Miniatures" company has in its repertoire the cycle "Classicism Romanticism", "Haydn-Mozart", "Rodin", "Russian Miniatures", "Choreographic Sketches", "Pas de Deux" and also a one — act ballet "Divertissement Brilliant" — productions set to music by outstanding composers, old and new, are in the most diverse styles and genres of choreography.

Among the most popular ballerinas is Tatyana Kvasova, honoured artist of the RSFSR, who dazzled the audience with feather like movements and perfect coordination to the music.

Performances of the company have been a success in Leningrad and Moscow as well as in other parts of the Soviet Union. The company have also performed abroad in Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Czechoslovakia and Cuba where they confirmed their reputation as a fine dance ensemble.

Their tour has enriched the ballet world with a number of creative innovation and have made a great artistic impression on ballet fans.

A magnificent performance by the Leningrad State Ballet — one does not know whether to applaud the brilliant music or the perfect choreography. It will be a long time before Jordan forgets this show.

Ayyoub returns with Yugoslav veal contract

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub returned home Tuesday evening after concluding a several day visit to Yugoslavia and Switzerland.

Mr. Ayyoub told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that his talks with the Yugoslav deputy prime minister and senior officials centred on promoting economic cooperation and trade between the two countries, and added that he signed an agreement with Yugoslav officials to import 5,000 tonnes of fresh veal.

Meanwhile, recently-imported mutton and veal by the Ministry of

Supply will be distributed to ministry stores in all governorates and districts on Sept. 14, 15 and 16 so as to anticipate the demand for the beginning of Eid Al Adha holiday.

Distribution will stop during the holiday and will be resumed on Sept. 21, a ministerial spokesman said Tuesday.

The ministry has also started the distribution of large quantities of frozen chicken, and all wholesalers can obtain the quantity they need from the ministry stores at Jwaleh, Irbid and Aqaba, the spokesman added.

Badran chairs development planning meetings

Cabinet holds governorate project assessment talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Tuesday presided over an extensive meeting attended by a number of cabinet ministers and heads of departments concerned with projects to be carried out in the Karak Governorate in the coming fiscal year.

Mr. Badran heard elaborate reports on these projects and the proposed financial allocations for such projects by the responsible officials. An outline of priorities with regard to project implementation was discussed and assessed by the meeting and the approximate dates for project accomplishment were considered.

Mr. Badran gave his instructions on several of the planned projects in the Karak Governorate particularly those concerned with the water supply, electricity, transport and roads, tourism and education.

The cabinet will meet Wednesday to discuss similar projects in the Balqa Governorate, as a part of a series of sessions to draw an overall plan for project assessment in the country's various governorates.

Meanwhile Monday Mr. Badran chaired a meeting in the Prime Ministry to discuss projects to be carried out during the current and coming fiscal year in the Ma'an Governorate. The meeting was attended by cabinet ministers and heads of departments concerned with these projects.

Mr. Badran stressed the need to lay solid foundations to guarantee the carrying out of these projects including the allocation of the necessary money to implement them. Projects that have a direct impact on the citizens of Ma'an should be given priority, and the improvement of public services should be dealt with speedily, the prime minister pointed out.

Projects that serve the interests of densely-populated areas are to be given special consideration, and roads and water services that increase productivity should be properly looked after, Mr. Badran said.

He also urged coordination in the implementation of these projects between the interested government and public bodies to avoid the duplication of resources.

Jordan to step up food security efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in the regional, Arab and international dialogue on food security and ways of guaranteeing the supply of animal and vegetable products to meet the increasing demand for such goods.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, regarding the Agriculture Ministry's objective of food security, Agriculture Minister Marwan Dudin said that the ministry has decided to produce 150 tonnes of wheat per annum.

Despite scant sources, Jordan has gained many notable achievements in the production of agricultural commodities and has reached self sufficiency in the field of vegetables, eggs and poultry while also supplying some Arab countries with its surplus produce, Mr. Dudin added.

There is a shortage of wheat and animal feed in spite of all efforts towards reducing this situation, according to Mr. Dudin. He also called for the utilisation of underground water resources to help

in the production of wheat. The cabinet has formed a committee for the purpose including representatives from the Agriculture Ministry, the Natural Resources Authority and the Land and Survey Department to study this project and submit detailed recommendations. Mr. Dudin said.

Doctors discuss research team's visit to Greece

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian Physicians' Association (JPA) Tuesday admitted 35 new physicians to its membership. The decision, made in a meeting held at the Professional Associations' Complex, was chaired by JPA President, Dr. Hassan Khreis.

In a previous meeting Monday, JPA discussed the outcome of a visit to Greece by a medical delegation led by Dr. Khreis had made to which discussed the areas of specialisation being pursued by Jordanian doctors in Greece. Jordanian medical students studying medicine in Greece are given the same practical training opportunities as given to their Greek counterparts, Dr. Khreis said.



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45,000 tons of stupidity

CONTRARY to earlier 20th Century American dicta, the Reagan administration appears to talk loudly, carry a big stick — and turn off its rational faculties. The announcement by United States Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger that he had ordered the 45,000-ton battleship New Jersey to sail into the Atlantic to be available for possible duty off the Lebanese coast was accompanied by Pentagon officials' statements to the effect that the move was intended "to send a message to Syria."

We may have our own difficulties and disagreements with Syria, related both to regional incidents and to longer term ideological differences, but we cannot remain silent in the face of such a blatantly stupid and shallow move such as the American administration has made this week. If the people in charge of moving battleships around in Washington would spend less time flexing their muscles and more time using their brains, they would quickly realise that their show of force will neither solve the problems of Lebanon nor contribute to achieving the broader Middle East peace which is the stated objective of the United States and almost everybody else in the region.

We find it peculiar — even vulgar — that the United States is so fast to "send a message" to Syria, but is so slow to send a similar message to Israel, when it has been the American-supported, -financed and -condoned aggressiveness of Israel over the past several decades that has kept the region in turmoil. If the United States is so enthusiastic about sending messages, it should start by sending messages to its disappointed old friends in the Arab World who spent the better part of the past year asking it to put some substance behind its verbal professions of wanting to push ahead with (remember it?) the Reagan initiative to achieve a broad Middle East peace. Why is the United States so quick and so macho when it comes to sending messages to Syria, but so evasive, apologetic and weak-kneed when it comes to sending messages to Israel? Why did the United States not send a single message to Israel between September 1982 and April 1983, which would have given the Arabs some substance with which to devise a formula for rational and activist Arab participation in regional peace initiatives?

The current events in Lebanon do not lend themselves to solutions via the interjection of 45,000-ton battleships from the United States. This move will only further highlight the fundamental inconsistencies and hypocrisy of American policy in the Middle East — a message that the American administration obviously does not wish to understand.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Beirut cabinet unhelpful

A SAUDI ARABIAN peace plan for ending the crisis in Lebanon seems to have foundered because it failed to obtain the approval of President Gemayel's government. Observers noticed that a statement issued by the Lebanese cabinet Monday completely ignored any mention of the plan, but merely reiterated the need for a dialogue to end the conflict and arrive at a national reconciliation. The draft plan, which was published by the Beirut press Tuesday, calls for a ceasefire — which has already been backed by all the conflicting parties and constitutes the first step towards a national entente. It also calls for the security forces (police) to take charge of internal security to replace the army which has failed in this particular mission. Perhaps the latter clause in the draft plan dissuaded President Gemayel from accepting it.

We also consider U.S. and French involvement in Lebanon's crisis as something contrary to the interests of the Lebanese people and the Arab Nation. This coupled with President Gemayel's refusal to pull back the army are major stumbling blocks in the way of achieving reconciliation and tend to prolong the war. The involvement of the army in the factional fighting is seen as serving only the Falangists, and therefore the government's policy in this respect is bound to end in failure and cost the army more casualties. While we follow up mediation efforts, we hope that the leaders of Lebanon's warring factions will understand that force alone cannot achieve a safe balance among the different groups. Also the government's disregard for the peace draft plan and its drive to mass foreign forces on Lebanon's soil are also unhelpful for a settlement.

Al Dustour: U.N. factor illusory

THE SAUDI Arabian draft plan to end the conflict in Lebanon represents the last card that can halt a further deterioration in the situation and rescue the country and its people from their present straits. The Lebanese government's complaint to the U.N. Security Council will not help bring an end to the fighting in the mountains around Beirut, nor will it stop further bloodshed. The Lebanese will continue to face more killing and destruction as they wait in vain for the Security Council to issue a resolution which will never be put into force in Lebanon. The Saudi plan, which enjoys Arab backing, is the last chance to defuse the tension and the only successful way of stopping the war. The Lebanese government is wrong to believe that foreign powers have the key to the solution or can save the Lebanese people from their plight. The longer the war continues, the more it will be difficult to reconcile the parties.

The Falangists were the major factor in the present conflict because they have pressured the army into moving to the mountains and getting involved in the factional conflict. Once the Falangists' power is reduced, their pressure on the government and army will recede presenting a golden chance for the government to adopt a more balanced attitude towards all the other factions so as to re-establish the country's unity. The sufferings of the Lebanese people must end, and this can be brought about only if Lebanon draws nearer to the Arab Nation and allows Arab brothers to assist its government in ending the tragedy.

Sawt Al Shaab: Paris returns to its senses

EUROPE HAS always been interested in the Middle East region and always been careful in maintaining strong relations with its nations. The past few years, however, have caused observers to feel surprised at the European nations' indifference to the events in this region, although they realise that many of their interests are linked with the Arabs. The massing of a French and U.S. force off the Lebanese coast was somewhat of a show of force in the region. But this show was no doubt orchestrated by the U.S. which had been dragging Europe behind it whenever it wanted to display its hostile attitude towards the Soviet bloc or its biased and imbalanced stand in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Europeans have probably realised the dangers of such policies and the great abyss they are about to fall in, as a result of their support for their American allies. The recent statement by French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson that France will maintain an unbiased attitude in the current Lebanese crisis came as a wise retreat from the rash and reckless policy adopted by Paris at the outset of the crisis. Perhaps the French have remembered Charles de Gaulle's warning against supporting U.S. policies in the Middle East. Europe has to cooperate with the Arabs not to bring life back into its own colonial era but to protect human beings from the danger of war and for the prosperity and progress of both peoples.

New stance towards U.S. imperative

By Ahmad Sudki Al Dajani

THE LEBANESE government could not conceal its disappointment when the United States announced in July that it supported Israel's plan to re-deploy its forces in Lebanon. A government spokesman in Beirut described the plan as lacking a time-table for a total withdrawal — something which might have given a little credit to Israel's designs and intentions. On the other hand, the U.S. special envoy, Robert McFarlane, commenced his mission in the region to try his hand at the Lebanese problem. Just before, he had met President Reagan for a briefing and Mr. McFarlane afterwards declared his approval of Israel's redeployment plan. He said that the Israelis had assured him they would not stay permanently in Lebanon and that he believed them. Mr. Reagan must have seen in the Israeli decision a means of exercising pressure on Syria. At the outset of his trip to the Middle East Mr. McFarlane announced that he was carrying a proposal for disengagement of forces in the Lebanese Bekaa Valley and said that Israel had accepted it.

This political image of the situation in the region formulated by these three reports coupled with what is happening in the Lebanese arena today, presents us with another more important issue: How can we understand U.S. Middle East policy and deal with it properly? The answer can be found in answering the following questions:

How can one explain Washington's policy in Lebanon in the light of its approval of the Israeli redeployment plan, and its subsequent

number of moves after the plan was executed? What is McFarlane's role in implementing U.S. policy in this region?

How can the Arabs deal with the U.S. in a proper and correct manner?

In answering the first question, we must refer to the Lebanese government's disappointment with the U.S. stand. It reminds us of similar disappointments by other Arab countries in their dealings with successive U.S. administrations. Lebanese veteran politicians remember President Gemayel's visit to Washington, where he tried to convince President Reagan to "reject" Israel's procrastinations in taking a decision on the withdrawal of forces from Lebanon and the Israeli redeployment plan. They also remember Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's postponement of his scheduled visit to Washington and the Reagan administration's moves to put pressure on Israel that coincided with the Israeli defence and foreign ministers' visit to Washington amid reports of an impending firm American stand against the Begin scheme. All this eventually melted down to nothing. The Lebanese veteran diplomats at last realised that the whole affair represented a total failure on the part of the Lebanese government which was disappointed with its total reliance on U.S. diplomacy to solve the Lebanese question.

For those observers of Washington's Middle East policies over the past two decades U.S. approval of Israel's partial withdrawal plan came as no surprise. U.S. policies never assume the

dimension of "urgency" when anything has to do with Israel's occupation of Arab territory. Israel has been occupying the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights since 1967 and has been encroaching on Lebanese territory since 1978. Its 1982 invasion of Lebanon marked the start of Israeli occupation of yet another Arab land. Some optimists had thought that this last occupation would not last long especially after the Reagan peace proposals. But more than one year after these proposals, the occupation of Lebanon still goes on, and the situation in the area remains the same. In the light of the present regional balance of power, the U.S. continues to be biased towards Israel.

The new U.S. Middle East envoy Robert McFarlane has a specific role and a mission to carry out: to try to cool down matters and ease tension so that the U.S. can have a suitable atmosphere for executing her long-term policies. The U.S. hopes her friends in the Middle East will help Mr. McFarlane in his mission although these friends have been continuously embarrassed by Washington's support for Israel. Perhaps Washington thinks Mr. McFarlane's presence might appease these friends and help smooth matters over until a time comes when she can work out some kind of arrangement. The U.S. has been adopting this kind of policy since the early '70s. Soon after U.N. envoy Jarring stopped coming to the region at that time, U.S. envoys took over and started their shuttle missions in the Middle East.

It is clear that American policy has not achieved a just peace and this proves that Arab countries' dependence on Washington was based on false and wrong assumptions that therefore need to be re-examined. Arab dealings with the U.S. should be based on accurate calculations. Any mistakes could have tragic consequences for all Arabs. Arab dealings with the U.S. should be based on the following realities as outlined by a recent specialised American study:

First: According to this study, the U.S. Middle East policy still lacks clear objectives.

Second: The U.S. underwent drastic change since 1978 due to the course of events and developments.

Third: The U.S. power of influence and that of her allies will continue to wane as the governments and peoples of the Middle East region increase their own influence over the region's course of events.

Mistakes in Arab calculations over their dealings with the U.S. surfaced acutely during President Carter's mandate in the White House. Mr. Carter himself discussed these miscalculations with Arab political figures and university professors during his tour of the Arab region earlier this year. He revealed that when he was president Arab leaders expressed their conviction that the U.S. has the power to impose its will on Israel and he used to tell them that this was not true. Mr. Carter nevertheless, proved our theory when he was faced with Begin's intransigence and stubbornness. When Israel invaded

Lebanon back in 1978, and he threatened sanctions if it did not leave soon afterwards.

Let us imagine how enormous our potentials as Arab governments and people will be if we mobilise our resources and unify our strategy to influence the course of events. Definitely, our influence would stem the power of external forces. More than one Arab state has adopted certain attitudes based on self-confidence and self strength, and was able to prove its power of influence on the course of events. Let us imagine how enormous the unified Arab stand will be if and when it is based on a collective Arab strength. Ever since 1948, Arab experience in dealing with American politics and those of other big powers have led to frustration and failure. The most recent example was Lebanon.

Some Lebanese circles say that the Beirut government has agreed to enter into negotiations with Israel under U.S. supervision without taking into due consideration the U.S. real position. The government ought to have demanded a withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and the implementation of the armistice agreement, now that the alleged pretext for its occupation and invasion has ended. The government should have adhered to this stand, backed by Arab and international support.

This miscalculation on the part of the Beirut government has led to a tragic situation in Lebanon. Lebanese national unity was made to suffer more and Lebanon is now threatened by total destruction. Also Arab-Lebanese relations have suffered as Israel continues

to cling to its ambitions and occupation while the U.S. is left to handle the whole issue single-handed after minimising Europe's role. The U.S. is not in a hurry at all because she wants her ally, Israel, to consolidate its war gains and remain the dominant force in the region.

Is it too late for the Lebanese government to re-consider its position in the light of this situation? The answer is definitely "no". Politics is a continuous process and there is always the chance for dealing with the U.S. on correct and precise calculations. The Lebanese government's first priority must be to try to safeguard a unified Lebanon ruled by all factions brought together under a national reconciliation umbrella and to try to maintain good brotherly relations with all other Arab states. The second priority for the government is to present Lebanon as a country that continues to confront the Israeli danger.

If the U.S. chooses to continue sending envoys to the region, this is of her own concern. But the important thing to know how to deal with these envoys and America's policies. We also must work hard to change the balance of power in our favour and to cling hard to our rights. Lebanon must be safeguarded by all Arabs. We must protect Lebanon and help it rebuild itself and we must know how to deal with the U.S. on correct calculations.

Dr. Dajani is a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee. He contributed this article to the Kuwait newspaper, Al Qabas.

France achieved stalemate in Chad

By Michael Battye

N'DJAMENA — The presence of a powerful French military force in Chad seems to have achieved its immediate objective of creating a military stalemate in the long-running war. Western military and diplomatic sources say.

The two sides watching each other across a no man's land of flat and searingly-hot desert appear to have settled down largely to waiting and probing, the sources say. The stationing of French paratroopers, officially as instructors to the troops of President Hissene Habre, has created a formidable barrier to a further southward drive by the Libyan-backed rebels of former President Goukouni Oueddei.

With a general offensive from the rebels looking unlikely, Paris hopes the next step will be negotiations to end once and for all 18 years of intermittent fighting over who should control this impoverished central African nation of some 4.5 million people.

France is working hard to encourage talks, sending emissaries to Libya, which denies having any troops in Chad despite contrary assertions from Washington and Paris, and to Algeria, its former colony with influence in North Africa.

But the sources said they were far from optimistic that Paris could manage to promote any serious negotiations, each side showing

no sign of shifting its position from preconditions the other cannot accept.

Mr. Oueddei told Western reporters recently he was willing to talk to Mr. Habre, a former government colleague and now a bitter personal enemy, provided the French troops went home first. Mr. Habre's movement brusquely dismissed the offer, replying that it was prepared only to talk to Mr. Oueddei's Libyan backer.

The tone it uses when discussing its northern neighbour suggests they would find little common ground even if Tripoli did agree to Mr. Habre's pre-condition of a withdrawal of Libyan troops.

To the Habre government, Libya is bent on expansion, seeking to incorporate sub-Saharan countries into a united Sahelian republic, starting with Chad and then using it as a base for the subversion of others like Sudan and Niger.

That view finds support elsewhere in the area and from the United States, which sees Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi as a menace to the region and is providing Mr. Habre with \$25 million worth of military equipment.

So far the stalemate has been broken only at Oum Chalouba, one of just two places where Mr. Habre's men are stationed to the north of a defence line along the 15th parallel the French helped set up last month.

Oum Chalouba, some 640 kilometres northeast of here, lies on one of two roads crossing the desert north to the south and French troops are in forward positions on both.

The government has claimed major victories in fighting this month at Oum Chalouba and Western military sources believe the real attacks there are principally to keep up the tension of a war atmosphere without risking engagement with the French.

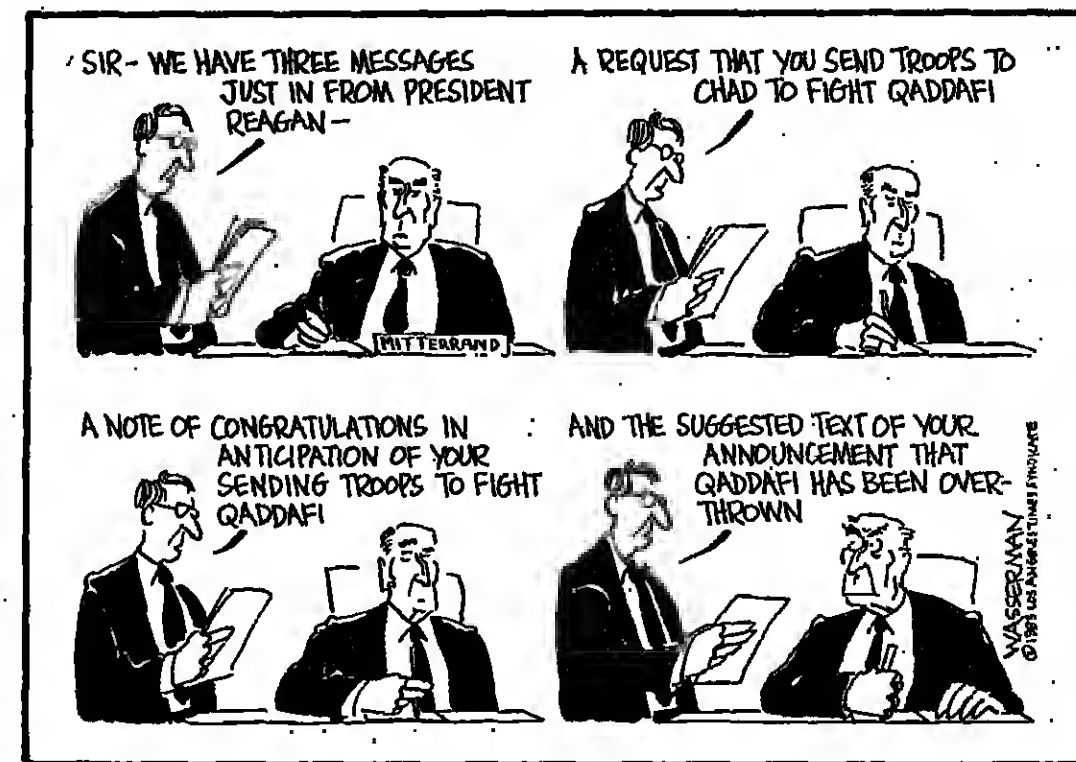
Another government outpost lies north of the defence line on the Western of the two roads, at Koro Toro some 600 kilometres north of the capital. It could also become a point for keeping up the tension.

But with the French in place, none of this can get seriously out of hand and the possibility of talks can be explored, the sources say.

A logical forum would be the organisation of African Unity (OAU), but the Habre government has little trust in the divided body which it sees as favouring Libya through its leftist chairman, Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam.

"Whether there will be any negotiations, I think depends on what Col. Qaddafi will settle for this time round," one diplomatic source said.

"My personal view is that he does not need to talk as time is on his side and against the French. He can afford to sit it out."



Another source said: "This stalemate could last for a long time and much will depend on whether a long and costly stay in Chad will become a major domestic issue for the French."

France now has some 2,500 troops in Chad, protected by eight warplanes, 15 anti-tank helicopter gunships and a variety of sophisticated ground weapons.

It is by the most powerful force in Chad, but its role is officially one of instructing Mr. Habre's men.

Paris has said it will not be used to help the government regain the large chunk of northern territory it lost last month when the rebels

forced them out of the oasis town of Faya-Largeau.

France has also said, however, that its troops will react if threatened, a promise that has kept the rebels away from French forward positions.

But official Chadian sources say they are seriously worried that France might not be able to keep its force here for more than a few months, and they know that alone they could not stand up to the Libyan backed rebels.

According to the U.S., Libya has over 3,000 regulars in the north backed by tanks and artillery, a powerful force in a war that has largely been a highly mobile

desert fight between relatively small numbers of men with jeep-mounted weapons.

For the Habre government, the stalemate is fraught with danger because it fears the 15th parallel will become a permanent partition line from where the rebels can subvert the rest of the country once the French have gone home.

Mr. Habre desperately wants to remove that threat by taking the north back. But he cannot do it without French aid and there are clear signs of his growing frustration with the French attitude.

His media launched a bitter attack on the French failure to react to the fighting at Oum Chalouba.

Pakistani MRD maintains high-pitch protest



Zia Ul Haq

By Ian Hoare

ISLAMABAD — Violent protests and political agitation in the interior of the southern Pakistani province of Sind went into their fourth week with no sign of the situation calming down. Large contingents of police were reported to have been deployed to protect goals from attack.

The intensity of the protests in Sind has come as a shock not only to General Zia's government and the Western powers, but even to many members of the alliance of banned political parties that launched the civil disobedience campaign on August 14 — the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

In three of Pakistan's four provinces, the action has in general taken the expected form of a gradual build-up towards a hoped-for mass mobilisation: Party leaders and political workers in the main cities have daily been defying martial law by courting arrest and attempting to make political speeches to gatherings ranging from dozens to thousands. But the eruption of dissent in Sind has involved rioting and demonstrations by crowds running into tens of thousands.

Unlike the agitation in Sind that led eventually to the overthrow of Mr. Bhutto's government in 1977, the protests have not been concentrated in the major cities of the province — Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur — but have touched small towns and villages which haven't experienced such disturbances since Pakistan came into being in 1947.

The rioters have unleashed their anger principally on symbols of federal authority — administrative buildings, prisons, courts, police stations and railways. There have been gun fights between protesters and the police, banks have been looted and there have been numerous arson attacks,

with offices of the "Support Zia Campaign" a favourite target. Reliable independent reports say over 20 people were killed.

The agitation has continued in spite of mass arrests — now being counted in thousands according to opposition estimates — more than 70 flogging sentences, and the presence of army patrols in several of the more turbulent areas. One indication of the level of popular involvement is that there have been at least two protest marches by women in small, socially conservative towns where Purdah is the norm.

The crucial factor in igniting the movement appears to have been that powerful Sindhi feudal landowners belonging to the main force in the opposition, the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), have thrown their formidable weight against the government. The two main figures in this respect are Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi and Mr. Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, a cousin of the executed former prime minister. Both are now in detention. Peasants and students have rallied behind them, and the brew has thickened as some religious leaders linked with the PPP also committed themselves to the agitation.

Sindhi nationalist feeling has:

clearly played an important part, particularly the undercurrent of resentment about what is seen as provincial government, the armed forces and other areas — including the railways, where the vast majority of workers are Punjabi.

These feelings find political expression in organisations like the Jiyee Sind Students Federation, and the more radical left-wing Sind Rasul Bux Palejo, who draws much of his inspiration from Mao.

The PPP leaders in Sind have been persistently arguing and pleading with the government that unless there are early, fully democratic elections under the parliamentary system laid down in the widely approved 1973 constitution, the integrity of Pakistan itself could be threatened by an upsurge of rebellious provincialism. In his Aug. 12 announcement on the country's political future, Gen. Zia ignored these warnings. He said nothing about lifting the ban on political parties, declared that he would alter the 1973 constitution to give more powers to the presidency, and said martial law would stay in force until March 1985, by which time elections would be held, with approved candidates only permitted to stand.

For the MRD leaders, this was

far too little and much too late. The problem for the opposition now is whether this loose alliance of regionally based parties, left-wing parties, social democrats and religiously oriented groups can extend and sustain the campaign at a national level. The key question is whether the movement will take off in the most populous province, the Punjab. Many MRD supporters there are pessimistic, seeing the Sindhi troubles as the beginning of the end for Pakistan rather than the rebirth of democracy.

They believe the most likely scenario is that the army — which has apparently not been used against the Sindhi protesters so far — will eventually clamp down, leaving a Sindhi separatist movement to fester underground until the next explosion occurs.

The PPP in Punjab is geared for electioneering rather than mass agitation, and its leaders are aware that after six years of martial law, it takes time, courage and hard organisational work to re-establish effective political activity. The MRD says the campaign of courting arrest will be extended from Lahore to other Punjab cities and towns, but those who go out on the streets know that they are very likely to be flogged. Much

will depend on whether the politicians can capitalise on dissatisfaction among industrial workers — only Karachi has shown any real sign of developing in this direction so far — and bring in the students' organisations.

In the other two provinces, leaders of the main regional parties, the Pakistan National Party in Baluchistan and the National Democratic Party in the north-west frontier, are still trying to make the movement take off in the area where they have a following. If they fail, the spectre of separatism is hovering in the background there too. — The Guardian

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

BOOK REVIEW

Jerash and the Decapolis: A lovely and informative book

Text and photos by
Rami G. Khouri

Special to the Jordan Times

Jerash and the Decapolis, by Iain Browning, Chatto & Windus, London, 1982, 224 pp., illustrated. Retail price in Jordan: JD 5.

Mr. Iain Browning has established himself during the past decade as the premiere chronicler of the great classical cities of the Middle East. His previous books, on Palmyra and Petra, remain standard reference works on those two cities. His two latest books, this one on Jerash and another on the Baalbek temples in Lebanon, extend his reach further afield.

As the title suggests, this is a book principally about Jerash, but also about the other cities that were associated with each other in the "league" of ten Roman cities known as the Decapolis. The exact nature of the political, social, economic or strategic ties that bound the cities of the Decapolis together is not known, though various ancient and contemporary writers have provided us with clues and theories about what the Decapolis may have been.

Mr. Browning starts his book with a brief chapter discussing how some of the Hellenistic colonies that were established throughout this area from the 4th Century B.C. under the political rule of Alexander the Great gradually developed into flourishing cities in the Roman era. Ten of these cities, according to most

Roman writers' accounts, were linked together in the "league" of the Decapolis. The accounts of the Decapolis, however, are not as neat as one would like. There is disagreement even among Roman writers about which ten cities formed the Decapolis, and even about the number of cities being ten. Some accounts name as many as 18.

Some writers refer to the Decapolis as a region (as in the biblical reference of St. Mark 5:20), which says that "Now coming back out of the regions of Tyre, he went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee in the midst of the region of Decapolis", indicating that "the Decapolis was an accepted territorial definition; that people recognised that a particular area was being referred to".

Yet, Mr. Browning concludes, despite hints from Roman writers that the cities of the Decapolis may have been linked in formal association of some kind, "tempting as it is to place a formal structure behind the name, there is no evidence to support it.... The indications are that there was never any confederation of the cities of the Decapolis. Each was independent of the others, but

they shared a common heritage and common cause in which "fraternal sympathy", or accord, to use Strabo's word, was a powerful and cohesive force. The word "Decapolis" remained only the name by which the geographical region of the ten cities was known.

In the second chapter, Mr. Browning provides some more useful background to the development of Jerash by discussing the general history of the area after the death of Alexander the Great in 33 B.C., and the impact of Hellenism on the Jordan/Palestine/Syria region. To do this, he also goes back a few centuries to review the Hellenistic presence in the area, thereby allowing him the opportunity to talk about Jordan's most important Hellenistic antiquities site, the ruins at Iraq al Amir, about 25 kilometres west of Amman in the lower reaches of Wadi Seer. The ruins of the palace are being restored now by a French team working through the Amman office of the Institut Français d'Archéologie au Proche Orient (IFAPO).

Mr. Browning calls this "the most significant Hellenistic ruin in the Near East." It is easy to understand such enthusiasm for the structure, now that it is being put back together to provide us with a fine example of the fusion of Hellenistic and local architectural styles during the early days of the 2nd Century B.C.

In 63 B.C., the Romans entered the Middle East in their imperial

manner and for many centuries to follow the area would remain under their political and cultural influence. This provided the Decapolis cities with "a new start", and most of them took the year 63 B.C. as the starting point for their revised calendars and coinage. The Pax Romana that was instituted following the creation of the Roman Province of Syria in 64 B.C. ushered in a period of stability that in turn provided the context within which the Decapolis cities could flourish and grow. By 106 A.D., when the Emperor Trajan finally conquered the Nabataeans by taking their stronghold at Petra, the new Province of Arabia was created, and included some of the cities of the Decapolis, notably Gerasa (Jerash), Philadelphia (Amman), Dium and Canatha. With total security assured throughout the land that corresponded to modern Jordan and Syria, the Roman cities developed fast.

Mr. Browning gives us a quick overview of the cities of the Decapolis, relating their history and current state of preservation. The cities he discusses at this point in the book, and in the context of the early days of Roman rule in the area, are Philadelphia, Gerasa, Pella, Scythopolis (the only Decapolis city west of the Jordan River), Gadara (Umm Qais), Hippos, Canatha, Abila, Capitolias and the as yet unidentified cities of Dium and Raphana.

The reader is left with the powerful impression that Jordan could do wonders by dealing with the Decapolis cities in a more activist manner, in terms of excavations, preservation and marketing. How many other countries in the world can boast the remains of so many lovely provincial Roman cities within such close distances of one another?

The Golden Age of the Roman cities followed during the next two centuries, when the provincial cities flourished in spite of the problems at the heart of the empire in Rome. In the 1st and 2nd Centuries A.D., most of the large monuments and majestic public buildings of Jerash were constructed. The basic city plan was formulated in the First Century A.D., and for the next 600 years or so the city would continue to grow and expand according to the strict city plan that was arranged around the Cardo, the colonnaded central street, and its several interesting side streets.

But political problems within the empire started to have their effect on the provincial Roman cities, and by the middle of the 3rd Century A.D., Gerasa was in a period of stagnation and decline. Things improved in the early part of the 4th Century A.D., when the Emperor Diocletian reorganised the imperial security and defence system, tackled economic problems and instituted fundamental political changes that were felt in the eastern provinces in the form of a very brief return to the previous era of security and stability. But this was short-lived, and Mr. Browning says that "the spirit had gone out of the city and it lay waiting for a new stimulus".

In 314 A.D., Constantine the Great built a new eastern capital of the Roman Empire at Constantinople, and soon after sanctioned Christianity as the official religion of the empire.

The new stimulus had arrived, Mr. Browning says, and Gerasa again entered a period of rebuilding and growth. He once again makes a quick tour of the other cities of the Decapolis, pointing out how they fared during the early days of Byzantium. But this, too, would be a brief period of splendour, and by the end of the 6th Century A.D. Gerasa was in decline once again, its many splendid churches gradually falling apart from neglect. The Persians occupied the declining city in 614 A.D. (leaving behind their only mark on the city in the form of the hippodrome, which they had adapted into a polo field).

The Byzantine era ended in the area when the forces of Islam came up from the Arabian Peninsula in the first half of the 7th Century A.D. By 636 A.D., the Islamic armies finally triumphed over the forces of Byzantium when General Khalid ibn al Walid led his troops to victory at the Battle of Yarmouk. The Islamic armies continued north and established the Umayyad Caliphate in Damascus, and for the next 100 years the area of modern Jordan continued to flourish because of its strategic location between Damascus and the Islamic heartland in Arabia. Jerash seems to have continued in use as a small city in the Umayyad period, though it was a far cry from its days of splendour in the first and second centuries. When the centre of the Islamic empire shifted from Damascus to Baghdad, "Jordan lost some of its importance as a major

transit route. Gerasa slipped back into a period of decline, and the great earthquake of 747 A.D. dealt the city its final blow. It seems to have been abandoned then, and the few Western travellers who passed through it in later centuries recorded that it was a mass of ruins.

In the next chapter, Mr. Browning reviews the history of Western travellers, explorers and scholars who visited Jerash and other sites in this area during the 19th and early 20th Centuries, starting with the young German Ulrich Jasper Seetzen, who arrived at Jerash in 1806.

John Lewis Burckhardt visited the city for a few hours in May 1812, on his travels which took him south later that year, where he would "rediscover" Petra during the month of August.

Another Englishman, Mr. James Silk Buckingham, travelled to Jerash in 1816, and wrote extensively about what he saw.

Many others followed, always finding a virtually deserted site. In 1878, a small community of Circassians settled near the ruins and started building the village that would develop into the modern city of Jerash. The first excavations and serious scholarship at Jerash took place in 1920, and ever since then archaeologists have been working at the enormous site. The latest effort is the five-year project now underway, in which up to ten teams from different nations will be working together under the coordination of

the Jordanian Department of Antiquities. They are excavating new areas of the city while simultaneously restoring some of their finds. A separate restoration and tourist services project is being implemented by the Petra-Jerash Project, testifying to the enormous amount of work that still has to be done to discover the full history of the ancient city and to restore it to its ancient glory and splendour.

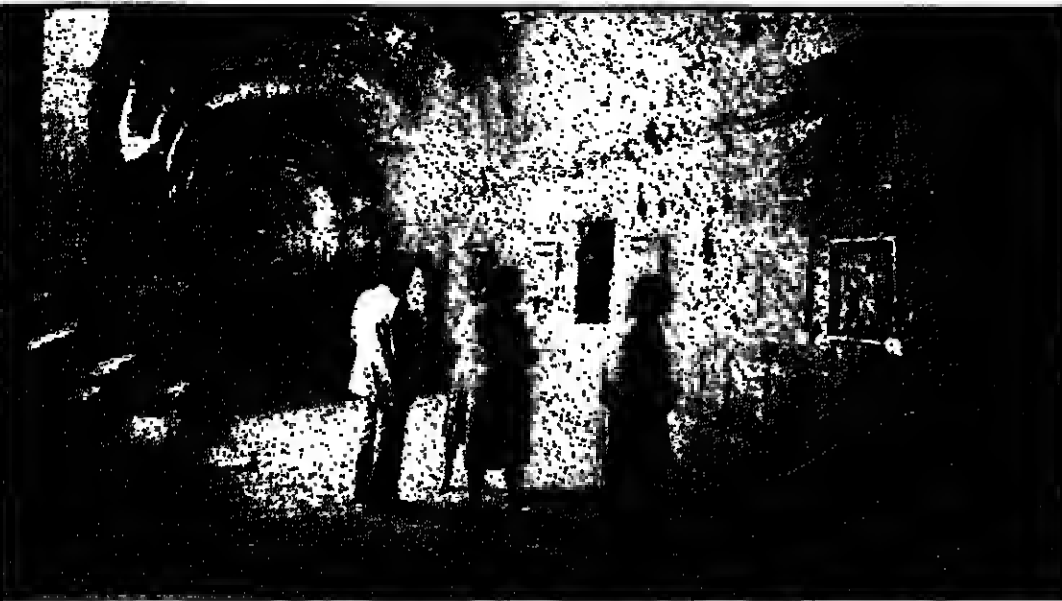
In the next chapter of the book, the author takes the reader through the city by describing each individual monument, its architecture, function, history and significance. This is the most detailed and useful part of the book, and the one that will be most appreciated by those who would want to learn more about Jerash by reading this book.

The focus of the author is very much on the architectural history of the city and its monuments, and some readers will find too many architectural details for their liking. This is largely offset by the lovely drawings by the author, in which he suggests what the individual monuments may have looked like in the Golden Age of the city, thereby helping the reader visualise scenes from daily life some 2000 years ago. The author's photographs are also very well chosen to document the points he mentions in the text. Finally, the maps and plans of the monuments are also extremely valuable, particularly if you take

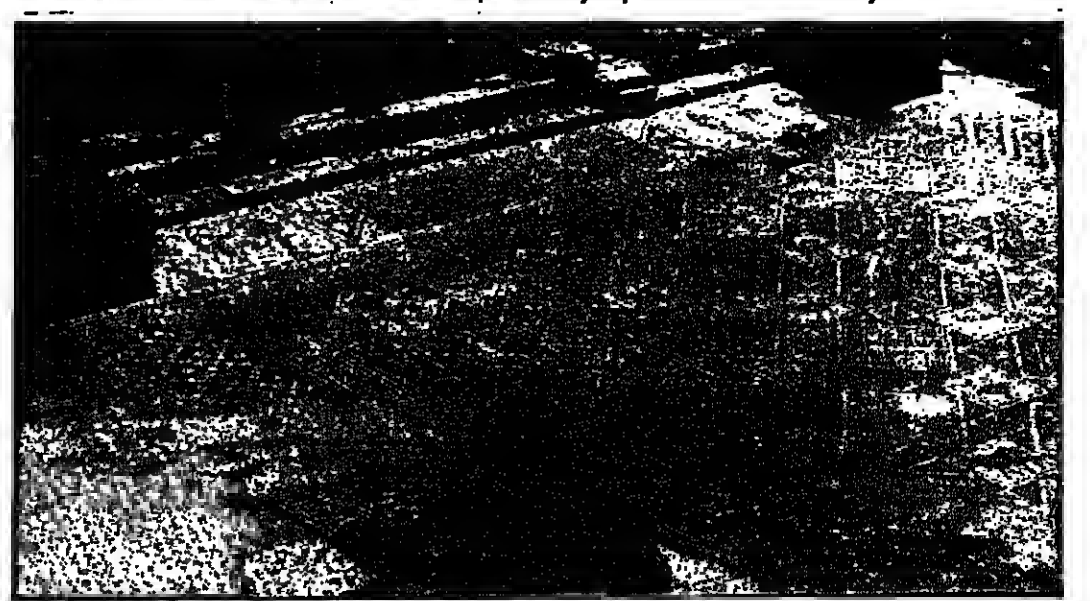
this book with you on a leisurely stroll through the ancient city. The relatively large size of the book tends to discourage this, and most people will read through the book at home instead.

The only element I would want more of in the book is the human story of what life was like in those centuries past, when the city was growing and prospering and people's energies were directed towards making their city more beautiful and more majestic. What did the citizens of Gerasa eat? What can we learn from their pottery and glass? How did they bury their dead? Whom did they trade with and what did they trade? Where did they keep their animals? What kinds of ailments did they suffer from? How did they move about? The human story is there in some passages, but on the whole one finishes this book feeling that he knows the buildings rather better than he knows the people who used them. It would be most useful if future editions of this lovely and informative book included more of the results of the archaeological excavations at Jerash and of what they teach us about the daily life and habits of those Gerasenes from the past.

The glossary of architectural terms at the end of the book is also much appreciated, given that one tends to forget the precise meanings of such terms as "adyton" and "exedra", and it is very useful to be able to flip back and refresh one's memory.



The vaults underneath the Temple of Zeus served as art galleries during the 1981 Jerash Festival, and played the same role again this year.



This floor from one of Jerash's Byzantine churches boasts particularly well preserved mosaics, attesting to the importance of Jerash as a Byzantine city with at least 15 churches.

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SPORTS

Hamburg can sit and relax as European Cup kicks off

LONDON (R) — Hamburg's soccer stars will enjoy the rare luxury of a night off when the 1984 European Cup campaign gets under way on Wednesday.

The exclusion of Albanian champions Vllaznia Shkoder for refusing to play last season means the West Germans will not begin their defence until the second round.

As Hamburg put their feet up and relive their 1-1 win over Juventus of Italy in the final in Athens 16 weeks ago, their main challengers will be casting envious looks in their direction.

Liverpool, Champions of Europe in 1977, 1978 and 1981, travel to Odense in Denmark, where, in the recent past, they could have won with their hands in their pockets and wearing carpet slippers.

The English champions will undoubtedly triumph over two legs but, with the standard of Dan-

ish football improving every season, they may have to be content with a draw or narrow victory Wednesday.

Italian champions Roma also face Scandinavian opposition when they entertain Sweden's Gothenburg, the 1982 European Football Union (UEFA) Cup winners in the Olympic stadium.

Like Odense, Gothenburg will not be turning up simply to stamp Roma's passport into the second round but the presence of Brazilian Duo Falcao and Toninho Cerezo should give the Italians the edge.

While Liverpool, Hamburg and Roma — in that order — are the favourites to lift the trophy next May, there is no shortage of clubs capable of topping them, if lacking the consistency to go all the way.

Two former winners, Ajax of the Netherlands and Portugal's

Benfica, are not the forces of bygone days but should have little difficulty in progressing at the expense of Olympiakos of Greece and Northern Ireland's Linfield.

The big three will also be happy if they avoid Scotland's Dundee United until the later stage of the competition.

United, making their debut in the Champions' Cup against Spartans of Malta, are not one of Europe's better known clubs — but nor were Aberdeen till their Cup-winners' Cup victory over Real Madrid last season.

Before the first round draw, Spanish champions Athletic Bilbao also had the look of potential quarter-finalists. But they may be the first big-name casualties, having been paired with the dangerous Poles from Lech Poznan.

Overall, however, the Champions' Cup has an impoverished look about it this season and, in

the early rounds at least, the Cup-winners' competition may prove the more glamorous with Aberdeen, Cologne, Barcelona, Juventus, and Manchester United all of collision course.

Aberdeen, who set Europe alight with their exhilarating 2-1 win over Real Madrid in Gothenburg last May, open their defence against Akranes in Iceland — the Scots can pack their slippers for the journey.

The other four have trickier assignments.

Juventus, who opened the Italian season with a crushing 7-0 win over Ascoli, will find goals harder to come by against Polish visitors Gdansk, while Manchester United, who always struggle for goals at Old Trafford, meet Dukla Prague of Czechoslovakia.

Barcelona and Cologne both face hazardous trips abroad and will be more than satisfied to re-

turn home with away draws.

The Spaniards meet East German Cup Winners Magdeburg, who beat Swansea of Wales in the preliminary round, while Cologne visit Austrian neighbours Innsbruck.

As usual, the UEFA Cup features a clutch of big names with seven former European Champions queuing up to prise the trophy from Anderlecht's grasp.

The Belgians have a gentle opener in Norway against Bryne but with Aston Villa, Real Madrid, Nottingham Forest, Glasgow Celtic, Internazionale, Bayern Munich and Feyenoord in the 64-team field they face some sterner battles in the months ahead.

Two of Anderlecht's key men last year, midfielders Ludo Coeck and Juan Lozano, will be going for a UEFA Cup double in new colours this season.

Aouita takes Morocco's 1st gold at Mediterranean Games

CASABLANCA (R) — Italy, France, Spain and the host country Morocco won gold medals on Tuesday as track finals began at the ninth Mediterranean Games.

Italy, who lead the medals table, added to their haul by winning the men's 100 metres through Francesco Pavoni in 10.24 seconds and the javelin through Aristino Ghesini's throw of 79.28 metres.

Morocco's new middle distance star, Said Aouita, third at the Helsinki World Championships 1,500 metres last month, took Morocco's first gold by winning that event in 3:39.19, just ahead of Jose Gonzalez and Jose Abascal of Spain.

A second Moroccan gold went to Nawal Al Moutawakil, who won the women's 400 metres hurdles easily in 56.60 seconds to break the previous African record

of 57.10 held by Ruth Kayalissima of Uganda since last October.

There was more glory for Morocco in the women's long jump when Naima Benboubeker took the silver with a leap of 5.95 metres. Snezana Dancegoe of Yugoslavia won with 6.30.

France struck gold in the 10,000 metres with Thierry Watrice winning in 29 minutes, 05.95 seconds. Then Isabelle Accambray won the women's discus with 53.70 metres, followed by compatriot Catherine Beauvais with 53.62 metres. Michelle Chardonnet set a games record in the women's 100 metres hurdles in 13.21 and Rose Aimee Bacoul won the women's 100 metres in 11.19.

France also gleaned five medals, three gold and two bronze, in the golf tournament, though the sport is only a demonstration.

American football star begins prison term

TEXARKANA, Texas (R) — Billy Cannon, a legendary U.S. college footballer who admitted masterminding a six million-dollar counterfeiting plot, began serving a five-year prison term Tuesday.

He was sentenced last month after pleading guilty to charges of organising what federal authorities called one of the biggest counterfeiting plots ever.

He also won the award for the nation's top college player in 1959 and was one of America's highest-paid professional players before retiring from the game to become a dentist.

His downfall came when he attempted to sell several million dollars in counterfeit money to an undercover agent. He will have to serve about two years before becoming eligible for parole.

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Nations wrangle over new sugar agreement

GENEVA (R) — Major sugar exporters and importers began a meeting here Monday in hopes of negotiating a new sugar agreement to regulate world supplies and prices, but key negotiators offered little hope of finalising an accord.

The 79-nation conference is trying to draft a successor to a 1977 five-year international pact.

This was earlier extended until the end of this year, but it has failed to keep the price above the fixed minimum of 13 cents a pound and it was decided to try to negotiate a new agreement to take effect from next January.

Sugar prices are at a depressed level of about 10 cents a pound because production is expanding faster than consumption, which has fallen following the world recession and competition from sweeteners produced from maize.

Negotiators opened Monday's talks by approving an outline proposal from the conference chairman, Mr. Jorge Zorreguieta of Argentina, setting out ways to regulate supplies to the world market depending on the international sugar price.

Diplomatic and sugar trade sources said there were serious doubts that the work could be completed in this session and a third meeting would probably be held early next year.

The first negotiations last year ended with major sugar exporters deadlocked over whether price stabilisation measures should be based on stocking or a combination of export quotas and stocks.

Mr. Zorreguieta told reporters his proposal attempted to blend ideas for a stocks-based accord, which the European Community and Australia favour, with the traditional approach involving export quotas, favoured by Brazil.

The proposal does not mention export quotas specifically, but mentions only the stocking of sugar when the market falls, leaving open for negotiation the trigger points at which action on a falling or rising market would take place.

The community, which stayed out of the 1977 pact though it has become a major exporter of sugar, immediately warned negotiators it could not accept an agreement which forced exporters to bear all the burden of keeping sugar off a depressed market without an effective commitment by rich importing nations.

The community has long argued that it will not join a pact that regulates the market mainly through quotas.

The conference will go on for three weeks.

Italy cuts pension entitlements

ROME (R) — The Italian government has announced cuts in state pension entitlements to save nearly 2,000 billion lire (\$1.25 billion) next year.

A government statement Monday said the cuts would reduce pension rights for high-paid workers.

Labour Minister Gianni De Michelis told reporters the decision, together with some cuts in health benefits and other measures to be included in the 1984 budget, would trim state spending by about 5,000 billion lire (\$3 billion) next year.

The five-party government led by Socialist Prime Minister Bettino Craxi has committed itself to holding down state borrowing to 80,000 billion lire a year (\$50 billion a year) this year and next.

But latest figures published by the treasury indicate borrowing this year is already heading at least 100,000 billion lire above target and Treasury Minister Giovanni Goria warned last week that drastic action would be needed to keep the government's economic strategy intact.

Health Minister Costante Degan said a cabinet meeting Monday had also decided to cut state subsidies on medicines and diagnostic treatment.

Monday's decrees, which parliament will be asked to approve within the next two months, were the first economic policy decisions by the six-week-old Craxi administration, which took power on Aug. 4 following inconclusive general elections in June.

The government now faces the task of deciding its next moves, to be put to parliament in the draft 1984 budget by the end of this month.

Latest figures show that Italy's inflation rate has fallen to below 14 per cent from nearly 17 per cent at the start of this year.

But prices are still rising far faster than in any other major industrial country and economic ministers have warned repeatedly that drastic public spending and borrowing restraint will be needed to bring Italy's economy into line with its competitors.

U.S. crops suffer severe losses

WASHINGTON (R) — United States crops have suffered severe losses from the worst drought since the "dust bowl" era in the 1930s, a government report said Monday.

A U.S. Agriculture Department field survey put the maize crop at just 112 million tonnes, down 21 million tonnes from last month, 48 per cent below the 1982 record harvest and the smallest crop since 1971.

A dry spell across the mid-western grain belt since early July has destroyed about \$7 billion worth of crops.

The report estimated the U.S. cotton crop at 7.78 million bales,

35 per cent below the 1982 harvest and the smallest crop since 1895.

Production of soybeans, a key ingredient for livestock feed and cooking oil, will plummet to 42 million tonnes.

Widespread drought damage to crops has brought added financial problems for American farmers already deep in debt and rekindled fears of renewed food price inflation in 1984.

Grain traders said prices, now at the highest level in three years, will go up even more due to the new crop figures.

In addition to low yields from

the heat wave, production this year was also cut by a government scheme to pay farmers for keeping vast areas of cropland idle.

Although grain production will drop dramatically, U.S. Agriculture Department officials said large stockpiles from past record harvests will be sufficient to meet domestic requirements and the needs of food importing nations.

They said American farmers harvested a bumper wheat crop of 65.5 million tonnes just before the dry spell began.

Farmers in drought-stricken areas have asked the government to declare an agricultural disaster, making them eligible for emergency, low-interest loans.

In other estimates, the report put the Soviet Union's grain crop at 200 million tonnes, unchanged from last month and the first good crop after four years of disappointing harvests.

World grain production in the current crop year will total 1,585 million tonnes, down two per cent from last month's forecast and five per cent below last year's record, it said.

Hot, dry weather over the past month damaged crops in the United States, Canada and Europe while crops in Australia and India improved, it said.

Reagan seeks easing U.S. antitrust laws

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Monday asked Congress to encourage joint research and development projects by American companies by easing U.S. antitrust laws.

The antitrust laws are designed to encourage competition by limiting monopolies and outlawing price fixing activities. But Mr. Reagan said that in some cases, they also restricted American ability to compete with foreign businesses.

In a statement released by the White House, Mr. Reagan said his proposals "will greatly enhance this country's productivity and the ability of U.S. industry to compete in world markets."

Under current law, U.S. courts can find that the mere existence of a joint research project is a violation of the antitrust statutes. The administration says joint ventures should be allowed unless the courts specifically determine a project deters competition.

"So long as these ventures do not facilitate price fixing or reduce innovation, such ventures should not be considered a violation of antitrust laws," Mr. Reagan said.

"In some areas, like the creation and development of technology, cooperation is necessary if American industry is to compete internationally," he said.

Mr. Reagan also asked for a limitation on the amount of financial damages that can be levied for a joint research project that violates antitrust laws.

Under existing law, the injured party is automatically entitled to triple damages. The administration would limit court awards to the actual damages caused by the illegal behaviour.

The administration proposal also limits the ability to contest licensing arrangements, under which the holders of patents and copyrights sell their ideas to larger firms.

Licensing can be particularly important to small firms that do not have sufficient resources to fully develop new technology, Mr. Reagan said.

The administration proposal would also tighten patent protections by barring the import into the United States of a product manufactured abroad in violation of U.S. patent laws.

Brazil reports accord with IMF

WASHINGTON (R) — Brazil's Finance Minister Ernan Galvès said Monday his country has reached agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on a new economic adjustment programme.

"I think we are definitely in agreement with the monetary fund on our programme for this year and the following one," Mr. Galvès told reporters at IMF headquarters here.

Mr. Galvès, accompanied by Brazil's new central bank governor Mr. Afonso Celso Pastore,

met with IMF Managing Director Jacques De Larosiere.

"I would say it was a good lunch because we had planned a courtesy visit to introduce Celso Pastore and it turned into a working lunch," Mr. Galvès said.

He said he had gone over the figures of his government's economic policy objectives.

"It served to reinforce even further the understanding that we already had with the fund of a revised programme of Brazilian policy for 1983, and impulse for 1984," he said.

Mr. Galvès said he had not handed over a letter of intent to the IMF officials on the new economic package. He said this would be worked out after a meeting of the Brazilian national monetary council on Thursday, when he would brief the council on revisions to the programme for this year and 1984.

Mr. Galvès envisaged a monetary expansion of 90 per cent for this year with inflation reaching between 150 and 160 per cent.

He said controlling this inflation rate was a necessity.

Mr. Galvès said high inflation was preventing public sector investment, preventing the private sector from carrying out its plans and inhibiting private enterprise from expanding.

He also said he was certain the Brazilian congress would approve a stringent salary readjustment decree submitted by the government.

"The proposal is so logical and the objectives so rational that the congress will not refuse to approve it," he said.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed lower in slack trading and at 1400 GMT the FT. index was down 11.4 at 696.5, its first drop below 700 since July 19.

The contraction in trading volume in anticipation of the U.K. government's announcement of sale of shares in British Petroleum, and Monday's decline on Wall Street also contributed to the lower trend, dealers said.

Government bonds showed falls ranging to about 3/4 point following the opening lower trend on New York credit markets, dealers added, and gold shares weakened with the bullion price.

Consolidated Gold Fields firmed 11p after full year results while Bowater rose to 210p following half year results, having opened 6p lower at 204. BTR pared a 15p fall to 8p at 524 after its interim results.

Others to announce half year results were British Aerospace up 12p at 187, Willis Faber up 11p at 548 and Costain unchanged at 228. Fleet Holdings was also unchanged at 127 following its final report.

ICI closed 8p down at 524. Beecham fell 11p to 321 while B.P. and Shell declined 8p and 11p respectively at 428 and 620.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

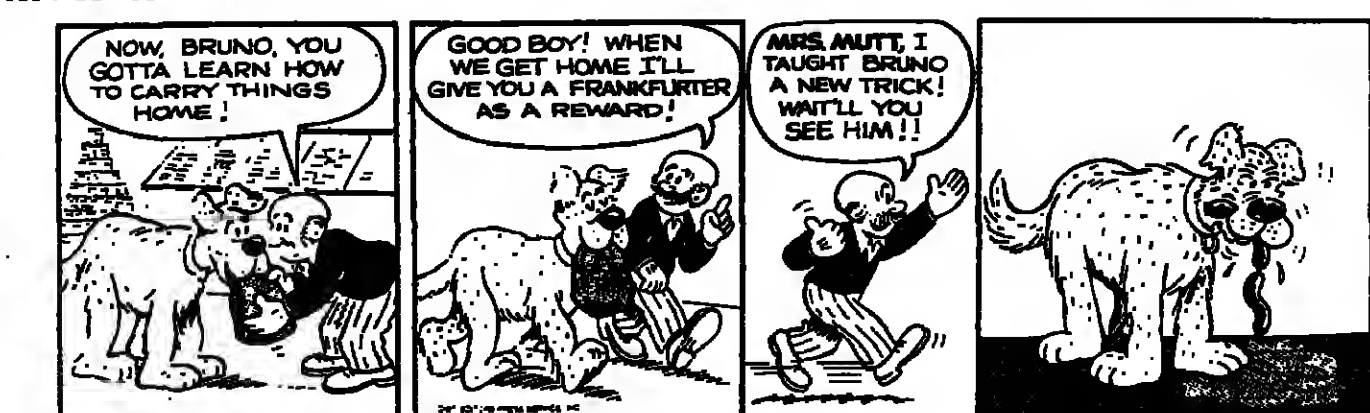
LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4960/70	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.2316/19	Canadian dollars	
	2.6735/45	West German marks	
	2.9915/25	Dutch guilders	
	2.1737/47	Swiss francs	
	53.84/88	Belgian francs	
	8.0630/60	French francs	
	1597.50/1598.50	Italian lire	
	243.70/80	Japanese yen	
	7.8820/70	Swedish crowns	
	7.4410/50	Norwegian crowns	
	9.5980/6030	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	406.10/406.50	U.S. dollars	

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The very early part of the day is good for getting ideas for your future well-being, so try to be up early and take advantage of this influence for impressing those in authority.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Some new venture inspires you and you can get backing for it from one in power, so do just that as early as possible.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Keep promises and then go off to look into new projects that interest you and involve yourself in the best of these.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Learn what it is that an associate expects you to do and then carry through in a most efficient way. Spend time with loved one.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Early get work done so that later you can be with a partner to work out some new deal. Take time to gain more prestige.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Pleasing loved one early is wise, and later you can be with a co-worker and plan how to be more efficient.

Virgo (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Early handle home responsibilities and then you can work on creative ideas that can give you a greater income.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Come to a better understanding with daily allies early and tonight you can have a fine time at home. Get home in better order, also.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Morning is best time to handle some financial affairs that are important to you and later you can talk over new interests with allies.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Early sit down with an advisor and then you can study your goals more objectively and know how to gain them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good pal assists you in reaching a vital decision and then do the work quietly connected with it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Early make plans for greater progress in the future and do the work necessary toward such ends. Your hunches are good.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) One who is well organized can help you to greater advancement both in personal and business life, so follow advice given.

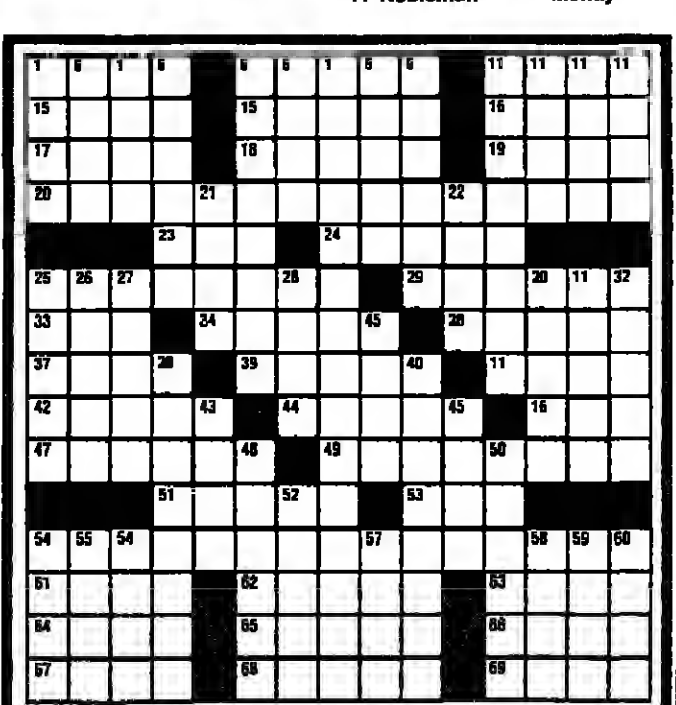
IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have excellent ideas as to how to better sell and also listen to advice of others with more expertise, and profit thereby. Then upon reaching maturity, your progeny can become a fine organizer and very clever in business.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword By James Gaarder

ACROSS	25 Castigate	53 Sgl.	12 Harr's
1 Record	29 Had a spat	54 Avarage	apouse
5 Potter's	33 Bard's	61 guys	13 Emerald
9 clay	34 Growing	62 prince	21 Table d'
10 Challanga	36 Sudden	63 Cars	22 Spaker's
14 Battle Sea	38 Sudden	64 Choir	platform
feeder	39 Increase	65 mamber	25 Gorga
15 Having	37 — were	66 Milk comb.	26 Must
soma	38 Hindu land	67 tom	27 Rap-sheet
resemblance	39 Traditional	68 New York	word
18 Crewing	41 Undecorated	69 look	28 Mada a
necessity	42 Makes	70 swaters	putt
17 Broad	43 Kennedy	71 Composita	30 Foam
spread	44 Art work	72 Ractracting	31 Wading
16 Debilitate	45 Sketches	73 crystal	bird
19 Caspian Sea	46 Ractracting	74 crystal	32 Scout
feeder	47 Ractracting	75 crystal	tasks
20 Flag colors	48 Ractracting	76 crystal	33 Eastern
23 Monetary	49 Ractracting	77 crystal	prince
unit: abbr.	50 Ractracting	78 crystal	38 Dungeon
24 Anglo-Saxon	51 Ractracting	79 crystal	hazard
coin	52 Ractracting	80 crystal	40 Uses for
	53 Ractracting	81 crystal	alevation
	54 Ractracting	82 crystal	43 Hara—
	55 Ractracting	83 crystal	45 Ot the same
	56 Ractracting	84 crystal	class
	57 Ractracting	85 crystal	46 Locust
	58 Ractracting	86 crystal	50 Hockay
	59 Ractracting	87 crystal	player
	60 Ractracting	88 crystal	52 Jaegers
	61 Ractracting	89 crystal	54 Afrikaans
	62 Ractracting	90 crystal	55 Eye amor-
	63 Ractracting	91 crystal	ously
	64 Ractracting	92 crystal	56 Iota
	65 Ractracting	93 crystal	57 Memo
	66 Ractracting	94 crystal	58 Disturbance
	67 Ractracting	95 crystal	59 Nevada
	68 Ractracting	96 crystal	city
	69 Ractracting	97 crystal	60 Chinese
	70 Ractracting	98 crystal	monay
	71 Ractracting	99 crystal	
	72 Ractracting	100 crystal	

Yestarday's Puzzle Solved:	
ACROSS	DOWN
1 Record	1 Means of
5 Potter's	2 Inactive
9 clay	3 Craats
10 Challanga	4 Throng
14 Battle Sea	5 Eagle-like
feeder	6 Smallest
15 Having	7 Tanna
soma	8 Asimov or
resemblance	9 Common
18 Crewing	10 Unlikely
necessity	11 Nobleman
17 Broad	
spread	
16 Debilitate	
19 Caspian Sea	
feeder	
20 Flag colors	
23 Monetary	
unit: abbr.	
24 Anglo-Saxon	
coin	



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THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TRIVE

PRIVE

NIVET

HUNCAL

We always assure a good reception here

THE WARDEN GUARANTEES THE ENTERTAINERS THAT THE AUDIENCE WOULD BE THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A " " ONE (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOUNT EJECT LATEST THROAT
Answer: Might be three that could put you out—
"ETHER"

WORLD

Chile introduces new laws to contain riots

SANTIAGO (R) — Chile's military government implemented new security measures during the night to try to quell street violence sparked by protests against President Augusto Pinochet's 10 years of rule.

After security chiefs held a day of intensive meetings at the president's Moneda Palace, government Secretary-General Alfonso Marquez de la Plata told reporters that for obvious reasons, no details of the measures could be given.

Ten people have been killed since last Thursday's day of protest against the government. Officials have described four nights of unrest, which virtually sealed off the belt of shanty towns around the capital, as the work of vandals and professional provocateurs.

Opposition political parties, still formally banned despite a recent liberalisation move by Interior Minister Sergio Jarpa, criticised

Gen. Pinochet's speech to mark his 10th anniversary in power. They said his policies were dividing the country still further.

"His message does not contain any new element which allows us to expect a solution for the very serious crisis affecting the country," the five-party Democratic Alliance said.

The alliance wants Gen. Pinochet to resign and democracy restored in 18 months. Gen. Pinochet has made it clear he intends to rule until what he calls his protected democracy, enshrined in his constitution approved by referendum in 1981, comes into effect in 1989.

The Alliance's statement said economic measures announced by

Gen. Pinochet on Sunday would do nothing to help the poorest districts of Santiago, where unemployment is running at more than 50 per cent and where the violence has been greatest.

"In the political field, they carry on without specifying the concrete measures of democratisation which has been talked about so much," it said.

"These conditions — unemployment, hunger and repression — will progressively create conditions of social and political polarisation which will make a timely and peaceful solution to the nation's crisis more and more difficult," it added.

The Alliance's leader, former Foreign Minister Gabriel Valdes, said no more talks would be held with Mr. Jarpa until a timetable for the return to democracy was laid down and the violence during the protests had been investigated.

U.S.-Soviet ties chilly

WASHINGTON (R) — Expulsion of an American diplomatic couple and Soviet rejection of a U.S. claim for compensation for the missile destruction of a Korean airliner have further chilled relations between Washington and Moscow.

The first item on the agenda for Congress, just back from a five week holiday, was to consider a resolution condemning the Soviet Union for the shooting down of a Korean Air Lines Boeing 747 flight with the loss of 269 lives.

At the U.N. Security Council Monday night, the Soviet Union vetoed a resolution that would have deplored the Sept. 1 destruction of the plane near the Soviet island of Sakhalin.

Study of tapes made during the Boeing's last flight across the North Pacific still left unanswered the questions whether the pilot knew he had strayed off course over sensitive Soviet military installations and whether a Soviet fighter pilot tried to warn the Korean plane before shooting it down.

Moscow put fresh strain on the U.S.-Soviet relationship when it expelled an American diplomat and his wife for espionage.

It said the U.S. vice-consul in Leningrad, Lon David Augustenberg, and his wife Denise were discovered "carrying out espionage activities incompatible with their diplomatic status."

The State Department, without commenting on the spy charges, protested to Moscow over what it called the physical mistreatment of the Augustenbergs.

It also disclosed the U.S. expelled two Soviet military attaches last month for obtaining classified documents.

A Department spokesman did not link the expulsion of the U.S. diplomats with the international uproar over the loss of the airliner. But in traditional diplomatic practice such expulsions are usually carried out with a minimum of fanfare.

Secretary of State George Shultz was expected to discuss the heavy strain on Moscow-Washington relations at a private meeting with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Tuesday.

The Senate and House of Representatives will vote later in the week on a resolution condemning the Soviet destruction of the plane and recommending the U.S. and other nations maintain sanctions until Moscow agrees to apologise and make reparations to relatives of the victims.

The State Department also issued a transcript of taped conversation between Korean Air Lines flight 007 and the Anchorage, Alaska control tower. The conversations, some obscured by radio interference, suggested the pilot believed he was on a correct course.

The tapes ended about two hours before the plane was shot down.

Bangkok Aeroflot office attacked

BANGKOK (R) — A man on a motorcycle tossed a grenade at the Bangkok office of the Soviet airline Aeroflot early police said.

The blast caused only slight damage to a steel shutter and no one was injured. The Aeroflot security guard was on the other side of the building at the time.

Three have been three anti-Soviet protests in Bangkok since a Korean airliner with 269 people aboard was shot down by Soviet fighters 13 days ago.

Children appeal to kidnappers

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — The six children of the kidnapped sister of Guatemala's president Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores appeared on television Monday to plead for her release.

The family said Celeste Aida Mejia Victores, who was abducted on Saturday in a repeat of the kidnapping of the sister of Gen. Mejia Victores predecessor, had never been involved in politics and urged her captors to free her without harm.

The 54-year-old widow, who works as a hospital kitchen aide, was seized by four gunmen as she was leaving her job. They forced her into a car and sped away before witnesses could intervene, the government said.

The car was found Monday abandoned 30 kilometres south of the capital.

A government spokesman said that no demand for her release has been received and he reiterated the government's stand against negotiating with the kidnappers under any condition or circumstance.

Gen. Omejia Victores has made no comment on his sister's case. He took power on Aug. 8 in a coup that ousted President Efraim Rios Montt, whose sister also has been kidnapped.

Pravda details alleged spying

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda said U.S. diplomat Lon David Augustenberg and his wife Denise were caught red-handed retrieving secret documents from a roadside hiding place.

Monday the KGB security police said Mr. Augustenberg, a vice consul at the U.S. consulate-general in Leningrad, had been declared persona non grata after being detained on Sunday.

Pravda, publishing an official account Tuesday said Mr. Augustenberg's wife had been caught as she threw a package containing documents into the back of their car on a road on the outskirts of Leningrad.

Mr. Augustenberg had been at the wheel of the vehicle, its engine still running. Pravda said in its backpage story.

The U.S. embassy in Moscow Tuesday declined comment on the article which was accompanied by a photograph of what Pravda said was U.S. spy equipment.

Pravda said Mr. Augustenberg, his wife and young daughter cruised around the suburbs of Leningrad in their car as if sightseeing.

Their aim, pravda said, was to

"recover a spy container hidden at the side of the road some 40 kilometres from Leningrad by a Soviet agent of the American secret services."

This agent had been given instructions to obtain secret information mainly about the Soviet navy, Pravda said.

"Further contacts were maintained with the agent through secret hiding places and coded radio messages," it said.

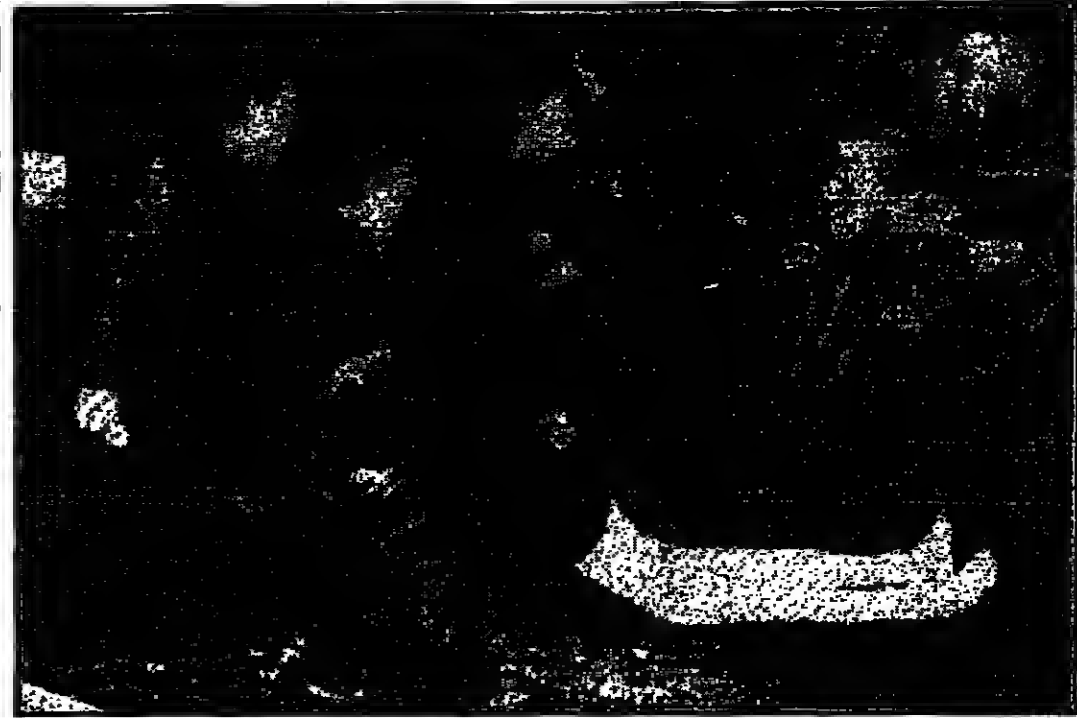
Pravda did not say whether the Soviet agent had been caught but said the documents were of "a particularly secret nature."

It said Mr. Augustenberg stopped the car and sent his wife to retrieve the container, a tin wrapped in an oily rag.

Just as she tossed the tin on to the backseat of the waiting car, Mr. Augustenberg's wife was seized by the KGB, according to the Pravda account.

Mr. Augustenberg attempted to accelerate away, leaving his wife behind, Pravda said. Later during interrogation he denied he was connected with what his wife had been doing.

"Clearly fear proved stronger than feelings towards his wife," the paper said.



Police drag away anti-pope demonstrator in Vienna Monday. (A.P. wirephoto)

Pope recalls Polish king's victory

VIENNA (R) — Pope John Paul II Tuesday recalled how a Christian army led by a Polish king defeated Turkish forces besieging Vienna 300 years ago, and saved Europe.

The pontiff addressed 20,000 Austrians and Poles on the Kahlenberg Hill overlooking the capital where King Jan Sobieski and allied commanders attended a mass before riding into battle against the Turks on Sept. 12, 1683.

Speaking directly to his compatriots in Polish, the Pope quoted from scripture that "the only means leading to victory and recovery of lost freedom is inner conversion, moral order, faith and loyalty to alliance with God."

Pope John Paul II said the Vienna victory decided the political and religious fate of whole nations for centuries to come. He cited the faith shown by the Polish king and his troops "in the face of mortal danger in defence of the freedom of Europe and the church."

The pope, on the final day of a four-day visit to Austria, spoke after unveiling a plaque on the outside of a Polish church on the Kahlenberg, high in the Vienna woods, and blessing a replica inside the church of Poland's most sacred Catholic icon, the Black

Madonna of Czestochowa.

The Pope delivered part of his address in German and part in Polish.

Afterwards he flew by helicopter to Marizell in the foothills of the Alps, west of Vienna, on a personal pilgrimage to an 800-year-old sanctuary dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Hundreds of Polish migrants, positioned on a slope directly opposite the Pope's rostrum and level with his eyes, waved huge banners proclaiming support for Poland's outlawed Solidarity trade union.

Soviet jets appear near Japan

TOKYO (R) — Japan scrambled eight fighter planes Tuesday after Soviet aircraft, including supersonic Backfire bombers, appeared over the Sea of Japan, the Japanese defence agency said.

It said eight Japanese fighter planes took off from four bases when radar detected at least five aircraft, including three Backfires and two Badgers, flying south over the Sea of Japan Tuesday morning.

The defence agency said some of the aircraft approached to within about 160 kilometres north-west of Sado Island, off the coast of Central Honshu, before flying North.

Tuesday's incident occurred as Japanese and U.S. patrol boats and warships continued searching the area near Sakhalin for bodies and wreckage from the lost South Korean airliner.

Israel, S. Africa barred from Delhi conference

NEW DELHI (R) — South Africa and Israel will be barred from an international energy conference due to begin in New Delhi on Sunday, an Indian official said Tuesday.

The chairman of the organising committee for the 12th congress of the World Energy Conference, T.R. Sanjay Chandra, told reporters the two countries would not be invited although they are among the group's 81 members.

India objects to South Africa's apartheid (racial separation) policy and to Israel's treatment of Palestinians.

Conference chairman S.O. Hultin said the group was considering whether to admit China. Taiwan is already a member.

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, will open the six-day conference which will

focus on developing cheaper, renewable energy sources as alternatives to oil.

More than 3,000 delegates are due to attend, including representatives of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the European nuclear society and various U.N. agencies.

Conference Secretary-General Eric Rutley said energy ministers from at least 20 countries would attend.

An official statement said they would discuss improving the technology needed to exploit various energy resources.

The conference hoped to reach consensus on cooperation on a global energy strategy to include protecting the environment and transferring technology to the Third World, it said.

Malaysia alert against leftist rebels

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia's defence forces chief, Gen. Mohammad Ghazali Seth, has called on the nation to remain on the alert against communist insurgency despite reports that communist guerrillas are planning a mass surrender in neighbouring Thailand later this month.

In an interview with the English-language New Straits Times, he said the reported surrender would not be the end of the armed struggle to set up communist governments in the region.

He added that the guerrillas could be demoralised and their ranks reduced with the surrender, but it did not mean the end of the communist insurgency in Malaysia or Thailand.

The Thai newspaper Bangkok Post reported on Sunday that some 500 communist guerrillas, including members of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM), were planning to surrender to authorities in the southern Thai province of Pattani between Sept. 27 and 29.

Gen. Ghazali also said some of the guerrillas surrendering could be from the 350-strong breakaway Marxist-Leninist faction

of the CPM which could lead to a reduction in its strength and activities along the Malaysian-Thai border.

He said the surrender would be the first in southern Thailand, although there had been mass surrenders in Thailand's north, northeast and central regions previously.

It would be a blow to communist operations in south Thailand and leave only about 1,000 active insurgents to wage a war of attrition against Thailand's fourth army in the area, he said.

6 on trial for murder of anti-mafia prosecutor

CALTANISSETTA, Sicily (R) — Six men accused of murdering a senior anti-mafia prosecutor last July were sent for trial here Tuesday on charges including complicity in a criminal massacre and attacking the state.

Magistrate Sebastiano Patane told reporters the six, including three missing alleged bosses of one of Sicily's most powerful mafia clans, plotted the death of prosecutor Rocco Chinnici in a bid to scare off other investigators.

The trial would be the first to be brought against suspected top mafia gang leaders since a clampdown on organised crime began more than a year ago.

Mr. Chinnici and two police escorts were killed in a car bomb explosion outside his home in Palermo on July 29.

Magistrate Patane said Michele Greco, his brother Salvatore and their cousin, also named Salvatore Greco, were believed to be behind the killing.

All three, reputedly major figures in the Palermo drug world, were under investigation by Mr. Chinnici as prime suspects in last year's killing of Palermo police

chief Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, he said. They are missing and a Palermo court has ordered the confiscation of their property.

Lebanese detained

Beside the Grecos, magistrate Patane said a Lebanese citizen, Bou Chebel Ghassna, and two minor gangland figures Vincenzo Rabito and Pietro Scarpisi would be tried for the attack.

These three were detained soon after the bombing. Magistrate Patane said the prosecution's case would be based partly on information given to the police by Ghassna.

The killing of Mr. Chinnici was the latest in a series of attacks against magistrates, policemen and anti-mafia campaigners.

Shortly before the shooting of Gen. Dalla Chiesa and his wife a year ago, Sicilian Communist Pilo la Torre was gunned down in a carbon-copy street ambush.

Mr. Chinnici's predecessor at the head of the Palermo prosecutors' office, Cesare Terranova, was similarly ambushed and murdered in 1979. Nobody has ever been charged with the crimes.

5 S. African miners badly hurt in blast

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Five miners were critically ill with burns Tuesday after an underground explosion which killed 63 men in one of South Africa's worst mine disasters Monday.

The blast, probably caused by a build-up of methane gas, went off deep in the Hlobane colliery near the Natal town of Vryheid in the east of the country.

Ten of the most seriously injured, all with severe burns and some with fractures, were flown by helicopter and plane to a specialist hospital in Johannesburg.

A hospital spokesman said five were in a critical condition. "Some are desperately burnt," he said.

Most of the dead, 60 blacks and three whites, were killed by the blast itself and by toxic gases. Some men were injured by rocks, mine officials said.

Plastic surgeons and other specialists were brought in to the Chamber of Mines Hospital in Johannesburg to tend the injured, the spokesman said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Italian police arrest rightwing suspects

MILAN (R) — Italian police said Monday night they held two right-wing urban guerrilla suspects and an extreme rightist sympathiser in a swoop on a bar in central Milan. Gilberto Cavallini, 31, and Stefano Soderini, 22, believed to be leading members of the neo-fascist Armed Revolutionary Nuclei (NAR), were arrested on multiple murder warrants issued in Rome. Milan and Padua, police said. Andrea Calvi, also 22, was detained for questioning. Police said Cavallini and Soderini were wanted for a range of crimes including suspected complicity in the assassination of Rome Magistrate Mario Amato in 1980.

Dutchman named jesuits' superior

ROME (R) — Dutchman Peter Hans Kolvenbach was Tuesday elected the new superior general of the Roman Catholic Jesuit order, a Jesuit spokesman said. Father Kolvenbach, who was elected at a convocation of 211 delegates of the 26,000-strong Jesuit order, succeeds Spanish Pedro Arrupe who resigned due to ill-health. Father Kolvenbach, 54, was born in Drueten, Netherlands, and is rector of the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome.

2 killed, 1 hurt by Bombay police

NEW DELHI (R) — At least two people were killed and one was wounded when police fired at an angry crowd in India's western port city of Bombay Tuesday, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported. It said the protesters were trying to prevent local municipal staff from demolishing huts they had built without authorisation on government land in northern Bombay. Police opened fire after a baton charge failed to disperse the protesters, who were throwing stones, the agency said. It said 20 people, including some policemen and municipal department staff, were hurt in the baton charge. More than 30 people were arrested, it added.

2 Picassos stolen from Texas museum

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (R) — Two Picasso oil paintings worth almost \$1 million were stolen from a south Texas museum Monday by thieves who smashed their way in through the glass front doors. The thieves escaped with Picasso's "Tete de Femme", painted in 1946 and valued at \$550,000, and the 1949 work "Buste de Femme" valued at \$360,000, police said. The thieves smashed the hurricane-proof glass doors with a chisel block, triggering the museum's alarm system, and made straight for the paintings 10 metres inside the building, police said. Police cars arrived within five minutes but the thieves had already escaped, a spokesman added. They left behind paintings of greater value, including a Dali worth \$2.1 million and a third Picasso titled "Femme se Coiffant", police said.

Sri Lanka to assist displaced

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government will give food rations and financial assistance to about 10,000 people who have not been able to find employment since losing their jobs in recent ethnic violence. Bradman Weerakoon, commissioner-general of essential services, said they would be given rations of rice, flour, sugar and cash to the value of the salaries they received while in employment in July.

Politician faces income tax charge

OTTAWA (R) — Canadian politician Roger Simmons, who resigned from Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's cabinet last month just 10 days after being made mining minister, told parliament Monday that he faces an income tax evasion charge. In an unusual personal statement to the House of Commons, he apologised to Mr. Trudeau for political embarrassment he had caused with his surprise resignation soon after a cabinet reshuffle.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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A GOOD SLAM TO SOME!

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ K7

♥ QJ63

♦ A J74

♣ A105

WEST

♠ Q10

♥ 98543

♦ A942

♣ K107

♠ 65

♥ 8

♦ QJ74

♣ 9632

SOUTH

♠ A62

♥ 85

♦ KQ10932

♣ K8

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

American internationalist

Lew Mathe once described a

good slam as "one that

makes." By his definition,

today's slam was one of the

great ones.

South felt that it would do

no harm to cue-bid the ace of

spades on the way to five

diamonds. That was all the

encouragement North needed

to go on to slam—the fact that

his partner had denied

first-round heart control and

bad not yet promised second-

round control was a minor

matter.

It would have been fitting